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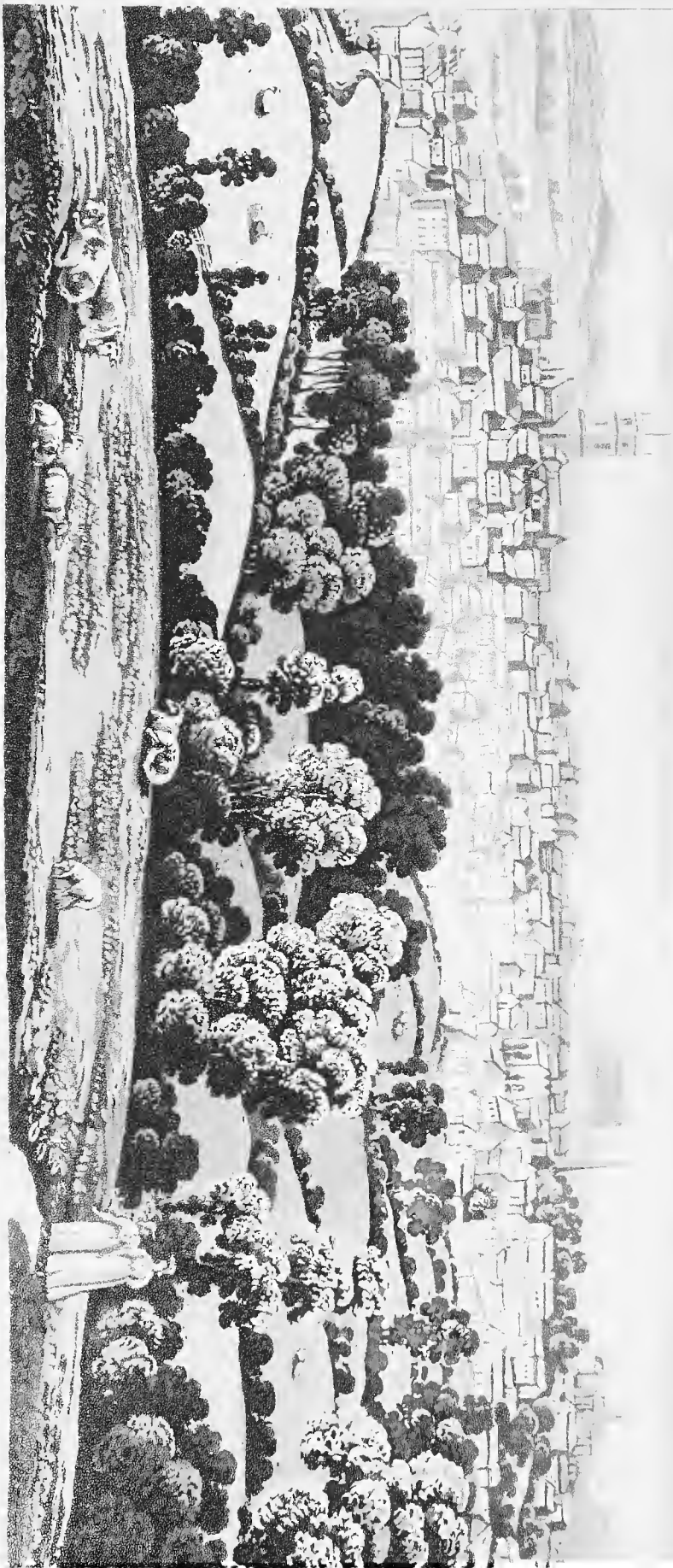
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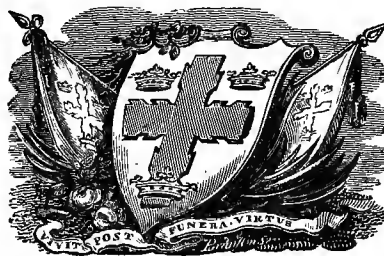
NORTH EAST VIEW OF NOTTINGHAM, FROM MR. JAMES'S COFFEE HOUSE.

THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
NOTTINGHAM,  
EMBRACING ITS  
Antiquities, Trade, and Manufactures,  
FROM THE  
*EARLIEST AUTHENTIC RECORDS,*  
TO  
THE PRESENT PERIOD.

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INSCRIBED (BY PERMISSION) TO JOHN SMITH, ESQUIRE,  
*MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE TOWN.*

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BY JOHN BLACKNER.

NOTTINGHAM:  
PRINTED BY SUTTON AND SON, BRIDLESMITH-GATE;  
AND SOLD BY LONGMAN, HURST, REES, ORME, AND BROWN; AND BALDWIN, CRADDOCK, AND JOY,  
PATERNOSTER-ROW, LONDON.

1815.



TO JOHN SMITH, ESQUIRE,  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE TOWN,

AND

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COMMANDANT OF THE SECOND REGIMENT  
OF LOYAL LONDON VOLUNTEERS.

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SIR,

*AN Author, who, in dedicating his labours, searches among the tombs for materials with which to emblazon the character of his Patron, pays but a slender compliment to his own discrimination, and offers a very inadequate tribute of respect to the man, whose favor he is seeking to acquire. To tell a Gentleman that he inherits a thousand qualifications from his ancestors, when, in fact, his own virtues are scarcely known; or when his vices are perhaps conspicuous, is to make a public exhibition of him, as a person whom mankind ought to shun. A writer who sacrifices truth at the shrine of adulation, burlesques himself, and deserves not the confidence of his readers; while a Gentleman who possesses not merits of his own to render him conspicuous in public, as well as in private life, is unfit to sanction a publication.*

*I shall not, therefore, obtrude myself upon your notice by common place panegyric on the virtues of your ancestors, though they have been long famed in Nottingham for acts of charity and benevolence, and for being trustees to the benefactions of others; but shall confine myself to a statement of those qualities which always endear their possessor to that part of society, whose good opinion and esteem are of value.*

*As a father of a family, and a pattern of conjugal fidelity, your character stands unrivalled, while your conduct in the Senate, as a lover of your country, and an admirer and defender of its constitution, has exalted you amongst the foremost of those, WHOSE GREATEST GLORY IS, THE PROMOTION OF THEIR COUNTRY'S GOOD!!!*

*Under a firm persuasion that, during life, you will continue to rank among your country's best friends, and that you will use your utmost endeavours to restore the pristine purity of the constitution, I respectfully submit to your notice the History of your native Town, trusting you will find it an agreeable companion during some of your leisure hours.*

SIR,

*I have the honor to be, your very obedient and humble servant,*

**JOHN BLACKNER.**





# PREFACE.

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**T**HE anxiety of every inquiring mind to obtain a candid and impartial history of the city or town, in which Providence has destined him to reside, particularly one so famous as Nottingham was in days of yore, is so apparent, that did I not feel myself in duty bound to return thanks to those friends, who have generously aided in furnishing me with information, I should not have trodden in the beaten and joyless track of those authors, who consider a "Preface to the reader" as an indispensable appendage. But, as justice and gratitude demand that tribute from me, I shall perform the pleasing duty concisely, and without affectation.

Among those, who have thus aided me, I have to name Mr. George Coldham, town clerk; Mr. Tollinton and Mr. Booth, churchwardens of St. Mary's, a few years ago; Mr. John Hawksley, late of Arnold, and now of Snenton; Mr. Sutton, printer; and Mr. Johnson, Mr. Turner, and Mr. Allen, sextons of the three parishes. There is another friend, whose never-ceasing exertions have contributed much to my stock of information on this subject; but who, from a sense of delicacy, is desirous of being nameless here.

I shall not attempt to emblazon the birth of this work, by detracting from the merits of those who have gone before me, to whose productions I owe much; nor shall I, like many authors, sound my own trumpet of praise; but shall leave the readers to form their own judgment of the merits of the production. And if it give them a degree of pleasure in the reading, corresponding with the trouble it gave me in collecting the materials, they will be fully satisfied.



# INTRODUCTION.

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IT is to the transcendent genius of a Milton, and the gigantic powers of a Hume, that historians owe the clearing of their dubious path. Till the bounteous Creator, lent to the world the above-named immortal writers, a historian might have wandered in the trackless wilderness of antiquity, with as little probability of a successful egress, as though he had been wandering in the Cretian labyrinth; and the more plausible falsehoods he culled from the thorny wild, the more was he extolled by the credulous multitude. But these two great men have proved, that a researcher into history, is not bound, in order to establish his character as a writer, to exhibit any thing but what is founded on authenticated facts, or supported by collateral circumstances, not of a very dubious kind. They had thousands of prejudices to encounter; but they steered triumphant through the tempest, and anchored safely in the haven of truth. I would not here be understood as wishing to discard every thing which is doubtful, *merely because it is so*; for many doubtful questions may be rectified by circumstantial argument and collateral bearings; no, my intention is to exclude the legends of those dreamers, whose exertions centered in a display of the *marvellous*, that they might feed the wild fancy, and fatten on the fruit of the credulity of those for whom they wrote.

In history, as in the science of astronomy, there is a certain space, beyond which, the native and artificial powers of man, never will enable him to penetrate. The virtuoso, who delights to wander in the fogs of his own raising, may grope, if he please, in the nebulous regions of history, but until it be proved that some good is likely to result to mankind from his labours, I shall not attempt to follow him into his darksome retreat. For what matters it to us whether the ancient Druids dwelt in rocky caves, or in huts of a conic form? or whether they transmitted their legends from father to son by oral or written means? which to the world are now no more, except what are pretended to be preserved by modern dreamers, to feed the folly, and waft the flame of the readers of romance; a species of composition which tends so much to dissipate the morals of the fair part of the creation, that the Almighty wisely created to solace the other sex through the thorny part of life; but who, for want of due attention being paid to their education, and a proper cultivation of their morals, when nature begins to bloom, too often implant the *thorn*, instead of the *rose*, in the breast of the partners of their bed.

Were we to consult the historians of the monkish age, we should find long dissertations on Gog and Magog, on Brute or Brutus, and his Trojans: we should also find a list of twenty-eight kings, all reigning in Britain, when it was invaded by the Romans; but, in all probability, when they related these things, their own desire to excite wonder supplied the place of fact; or at least, they gathered the matter of which their histories are composed from the wild legends of their cloisters, where hypocrisy and fraud were the chief articles of barter; and to support which sprung a desire to deceive.

It can now be of no consequence to us, by what name this country was known two or three thousand years ago: whether it was called Albion, either from *Albion Marcatius*, who, it is said, reigned over the wild hordes that inhabited it before any thing like a written chronicle was known among them; or from *Ab albis rupibus*, words which imply the white rocks which present their projecting bearings towards the coast of France; or from the word *Olbia*, which signifies *rich* and *happy*. Or, next, whether it was called Britain from the British words *Pryd* and *Cain*, which imply *form* or *shape*, and *white*; or from the British word *Bryth*, which signifies *painted* or *coloured*; to which the Greeks added *Tania*, meaning *region*, the *painted region*; or from the Greek word *Alphon*, which signifies white. Be all this as it may, it only proves that conquerors, folly and caprice, have adopted, or changed the names of countries at their will. Notwithstanding this country may have been known by a hundred different names, we know it best by that of *England*; and the great object of the historian should be to show how it has risen from its once obscure situation to its present state of opulence and power; that its inhabitants may profit by experience, and thereby learn to cherish the virtues, and avoid the vices of the past and present times.

The arguments which apply to the unsettled state of the early part of British history may, with equal propriety, be applied to the history of this ancient and celebrated town; for what difference can it make to us (since no chartered

right, or privilege enjoyed by custom depends upon its original name) whether it was called *Causennæ*, *Gofennæ*, or *Govenneæ*, from a cluster of hills, according to the opinion of Dr. Gale; or, as Deering has it, from a number of caves\*; and afterwards *Snoden-gaham*, *Snodden-gaham*, or *Snottengaham*, and thence *Nottingham*, which latter name, from a change of circumstances and expression, I think, sprung from the numerous nutteries in its neighbourhood, though the former might have arisen from a compound of the Saxon words *den*, *cave*, and *habitation*: *Not*, very probably, being substituted for *Nut*, when etymology was less attended to than it is at present. And though exceptions may be taken to any rule, which is the offspring of fancy, it is fair to conclude, that the names of towns, like the surnames of men, owe their birth to some particular circumstance connected with business, &c. or to the product of some particular plot of earth. As a proof that this town was once beset with nutteries, when the workmen in 1791, were removing the soil, in a swampy piece of ground near Poplar-place, between the rivers Leen and Beck, in order to lay the foundation of Mr. Robert Denison's cotton-mill, whole handfuls of entire nuts were found, at least two feet below the surface. This circumstance might be worth the attention of the naturalist, as, in all probability; they had lain there near two thousand years.

The first deed, now extant, wherein this town is called by its present name, is that in which William Peverel gave the tithe of the fishery of Nottingham to the monastery of Lenton; he having previously been created Lord of the Manor of Nottingham, by his father William the Conqueror, to whom he was a natural son. At the time William created his son Lord of the Manor of this town, he gave him ten acres of land, to be converted into an orchard, of which, it is thought, Standard Close formed a part, as it continues extra-parochial to the present day, but more of this hereafter. This close has long been in the Newcastle family, part of which was given for the purpose of the General Hospital's being erected upon; and the remainder was sold, in 1807, for building purposes, under the express condition, that no house should be erected upon it, the annual rent of which should be less than twenty-five pounds; and that no manufactory should be carried on in any of the buildings.

From whatever sources Nottingham derived the different names it has borne; and from whatever causes the changes have taken place, it is not material farther to inquire; but we may venture to affirm, without fear of contradiction, that in point of manufacturing and commercial genius—in industry and useful invention, it yields preference to no town or city in the British empire, and in its progress in the fine arts it will give up the palm but to few†.

After briefly treating upon the antiquity of the town, and its various embellishments and peculiarities, the grand object will be to delineate the rise, progress, and value of its trade and manufactures; and to shew the necessity of fostering those acquirements as the guardian angels, or vital sparks of its existence.

What is said by John Rowse, the monkish historian in the reign of Henry the VIIth, respecting Nottingham having been a place of note, near a thousand years before the birth of Christ, is treated by Deering just as nonsense deserves; but a few arguments, collateral to those employed by that writer, may not be deemed impertinent, or inconclusive.

When the Romans made a conquest of this country, they found the inhabitants of the interior in a state of *nudity*, and resembling, in manners and ways of life, the wandering Koracks of the present day, who inhabit Mount Caucasus. Practisers in human sacrifice, they lived in a state of savage seclusion from all mankind, except their own isolated hordes—in strict obedience to their Druids and Bards—delighting in woods and caves; and every clan allowing a community of wives.

The lofty yielding rock on which Nottingham stands, then half circumscribed with woods, which bade defiance to the tempestuous howling of the north and north-east winds, affording at the same time, plenty of fuel and game: the Trent, which would serve them as a barrier against their southern enemies, and yield them plenty of fish, and water for themselves and their flocks; while the south and south-west sunbeams shed an enlivening influence on the spot, would be inducements sufficient for some of those children of nature to chuse it as the place of their abode. The vast

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\* Asser, who was one of our Saxon historians, asserts that *Snottengaham*, in the Saxon, *Speluncarum Domus*, in the Latin, and *Tui ogo bauc*, in the ancient British language, alike mean a habitation or retreat in the rocks.

† At the present time Mr. Bonnington and Mr. Barber, as portrait and landscape painters, stand almost unrivalled, as does Mr. Tomson, for the painting of animals.

quantity of oak, too, the object of their peculiar devotion, would be a strong incentive to them to fix their residence so near to where it grew. Their more maritime neighbours, who, of course, would be beforehand with them in the knowledge of commercial pursuits, would supply them, in exchange for their flocks and their herds, with implements of war, and with tools with which to make their subterraneous habitations in the rock, the sandy quality of which would render the task comparatively easy for them to perform. We have thus given reasons why the rocky front on which Nottingham stands, was, probably, inhabited so early as the days of the Druids, and others will appear hereafter; but the idea of giving, even a tolerably correct history of a town, during a space of near three thousand years, while the records of the country itself cannot be traced, with any degree of certainty, more than two thousand, would put any one, except a monkish historian, to the blush.

The learned have long canvassed the question whether Nottingham ever was a Roman station; but as no proof, either positive or circumstantial, has ever been adduced in support of its having been so, except that an old man, is said by Dr. Stukeley, to have found a pot of Roman coins at Wilford, (a small village on the south bank of the Trent, nearly opposite to this town, where a ferry-boat is kept to conduct passengers to and fro), which, by the bye, is no proof at all; first, because there is no evidence, except that of Dr. Stukeley's, that such pot ever was found, whose testimony of itself is of a very dubious nature; and secondly, if such a pot were found, it might have been deposited there to prevent its contents from falling into the hands of the Danes, when they ravaged this neighbourhood in the year 866. But be this as it may, I feel no inclination to enter further into the dispute, as it is not connected with the object in view. It is almost certain, however, that the Romans had a camp at Mansfield-Woodhouse, a village fourteen miles hence; as the late Hayman Rook, Esq. of that place, discovered various remains of that people's industry in his own neighbourhood.

In the Saxon heptarchy, the kingdom of Mercia, of which Nottingham formed a part, began in 582, and continued 202 years; during which time there reigned in it eighteen kings, most of whom were either great promoters of peace, or were very fortunate in war; one of whom, whose name was *Peada*, established christianity among his subjects about the year 660.

As these German adventurers, from their marauding course of life, possessed a considerable share of military skill, it is likely they would fix upon this advantageous situation as a place of strength; in particular as, by dislodging the Britons, they would easily convert the caves of the latter into storehouses for their plunder; or into places of retreat, in case of danger; and as the forest would supply them with fuel and with game. The Trent, too, would particularly engage their attention; as it would afford them an easy communication with the German Ocean, and thereby enable them to obtain a supply of strength in case of need, without such supplies being constrained to be landed until they arrived at their ulterior destination. By the same conveyance too, the fertile plains of Lincolnshire would teem their harvests into the store-houses of the invaders; while the forest of Sherwood would furnish them with timber with which to build their vessels. And the rich mines of Derbyshire, which were likewise in Mercia, would also send their leaden wealth down the Derwent into the Trent, making this town a central depôt; which would daily add to its importance; and also to the commercial interest of the kingdom, of which it formed a part. Hence it is from this time, and from these concurring circumstances of advantage of situation, as well military as commercial, that we are to date the rise of Nottingham, as a place of importance.

While the heptarchy lasted, and the kingdom of Mercia was governed by a separate monarch, there can be little doubt of this town's being frequently the seat of government, as its situation afforded such excellent sport for the chase, which was always considered a kingly exercise, particularly as we step backwards into the ruder ages of the world. But, waving all probabilities, we may fairly conclude that this town made rapid advances during the heptarchy, or shortly after, since in the reign of Ethelred, the fifth Saxon king, in 866, it could, for a time, stop the progress of a vast army of Danes, that had landed in the north; and, after having burnt the city of York, carried fire and sword, sparing neither age nor sex, till they arrived at Nottingham, which was then denominated a *city*, and which, after great difficulty, was taken by the enemy, who therein took up their winter quarters.

Although we have accounted for the forming of many of the caverns in the rocks, where it presents its stupendous front towards the south, by supposing them first to have been made as dwellings for the ancient Britons, and then converted into storehouses by the Saxons; yet there are many extraordinary vaults in the interior of the town, which

have long been considered as objects of great curiosity ; especially those around the great Market-place ; and one leading from Market-street, up Pilcher-gate, and terminating near the mansion of the late John Sherwin, Esq. now the property of Mr. R. Bigsby, attorney-at-law. This immense vault is chiefly arched in a regular manner, and supported by columns, carved with capitals. Some parts of this vault, to all appearance, was originally designed for places of worship ; and others for places of abode. Deering informs us, that it was discovered by one Edward Goddard, a bricklayer, who was living in his time. In one of the apartments were found a wooden cup and can ; but when touched they mouldered to dust. Let us endeavour to account for the formation of these subterraneous apartments.

In the early part of the tenth century, many disputes arose between the married and the unmarried clergy ; the parties alternately procuring each other's expulsion from the performance of the sacerdotal duties, accordingly as each could make interest with the higher powers. In the reign of Edward the Martyr, it appears that the monks were in favor, to the complete exclusion of the married priests. But, about the year 975, some dreadful calamities befalling the country, such as the earth not yielding her increase, disorders among the cattle, &c., which the people looked upon as so many curses sent from heaven, to punish them for the miseries which were endured by the married clergy and their families ; in whose behalf, and in order to appease the wrath of heaven, the Duke of Mercia\* destroyed the monasteries in his province ; cast out the monks, and gave their benefices to the married clergy. Under this change of circumstances, is it not probable, that those hypocritical and disappointed monks would exhibit a strange austerity of morals, and shew a desire to live apart from the rest of society, in order to excite compassion in the minds of the people, and stir them up in their defence ? To enable them to carry on this farce the better, by an extraordinary appearance of sanctity and devotion, *is it not highly probable, that they would procure the making of these subterraneous dwellings, as places of affected retirement and retreat ?* more particularly as this being a large town, that the more people might be within the hearing of their wailings, and have their feelings wrought upon in support of the *holy monkish cause*.

At the village of Dale, ten miles west of this town, is a large cave in the side of a hill, which tradition informs us was, in ancient times, the retreat of holy men. Within the view of this cave, an immense stone window-frame, belonging to an ancient abbey, still rears its majestic brow.

While on this subject it may not be improper to speak of a cave of modern formation which runs under a hill, called Dog-kennel-hill, on the west side of the road leading from St. Mary's workhouse to the Gallows-hill. This cave, which is the largest in the town, is the work of one James Ross, or Rouse, who, during thirty years, got sand in it, which he sold to the good housewives of the town to scatter upon their floors. Old age and infirmities compelled him, a few years ago, to cease from his labour ; and he retired to spend the remainder of his days in St. Nicholas's workhouse. The hills about the gallows, and those on the south side of the Derby road, leading from hence to Radford, have all been perforated to a considerable extent by persons getting a livelihood in the manner as did poor Ross ; but the caves near the gallows were chiefly filled up, and the scattered fragments of hills and rocks removed, in 1811, by the distressed mechanics and artisans of the town, who were employed to do the work by the overseers of St. Mary's parish, rather than take them and their families into the workhouse. While these poor fellows were at work on these hills they found more than thirty human skulls, and many other bones ; but the whole in so scattered a state, as to justify a supposition that they had been brought thither at the lowering of some one of the church yards.

But to return to the antiquity of the town, and the bravery and patriotism of its inhabitants, which objects will be further illustrated by dropping a few more words on the invasions of the northern barbarians. The cold and uncultivated state of the regions those people inhabited had a natural tendency to contract the generous feelings and enlightened ideas, which give happiness to man, in proportion as they are diffused. Those people always living in a state, bordering upon anarchy ; never obeying their chieftains, except when they led them on to plunder ; possessing in an extraordinary degree, those principles which spurn at the chains of a master ; and the food they ate, and their general habits, all conspired to stamp their very features with relentless ferocity ; and to propel them on to seek for

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\* At the dissolution of the heptarchy, the kingdom of Mercia was converted into a dukedom.



happier elimes; which the divisions of the Roman empire enabled them to obtain. Being enemies to learning themselves, they sought its destruction in others; hence books, as well as men, became objects whereon to vent their savage fury. And hence it is that we find so many chasms in the histories, both of nations and towns, where these barbarians once held dominion. But, if we consider, that Nottingham, in 866, could make a serious stand against an army of Danes, that had ravaged and laid waste the greater part of the north of England; and, when compelled to submit, that it could furnish winter-quarters for this army, we must conclude that it contained a considerable number of brave fellows, whose habitations occupied a serious extent of ground. The imposing number, and consummate bravery of the inhabitants at that time, are fully established by the resistance they made to the Danes; and the extent of the town is fully established by the great circumference of the wall which surrounded it, and which was erected by Edward, the elder, in 910. Then if we compare these positions with the diminutive state of the town, in the time of Edward the Confessor, we must conclude, that it had suffered much from the contentions for power by the northern invaders, in the intermediate time. For, in Domesday-book, it is stated that Nottingham contained only *one hundred and twenty-three* burgesses, and *nineteen* villains, without any other class of men being noticed; which certainly would have been done, if any such had been found in it at the time; while it contained *two hundred and fifteen* houses. This proves that much destruction had taken place; and that the inhabitants had either been slaughtered in their resistance to their oppressors, or that they had fled for safety elsewhere—perhaps both! But the most valuable part of the extract, from Domesday-book, is that which proves this town to be a *borough by prescription*: it being admitted to be such before any charter, now extant, was granted to constitute it a borough. It also returned members to parliament, as early as the year 1283.

Nottingham has also been independent of the county ever since the reign of Henry the Fifth; and a county of itself from the days of his successor. The following towns and cities likewise enjoy the like privilege; to wit:—Berwick-upon-Tweed, Haverford-West, Kingston-upon-Hull, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Poole, Southampton, Bristol, Canterbury, Chester, Coventry, Exeter, Gloucester, Lincoln, Lichfield, London, Norwich, Worcester, and York.

In the division of South Britain into twenty-eight petty kingdoms, prior to the invasion of the Romans, Nottingham belonged to that part, the people whereof were called Coritani; and when the country was divided by Constantine the Great, in the early part of the fourth century, into four governments, it belonged to that division called Maxima Cæsaræensis.



THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
*NOTTINGHAM,*  
FROM THE EARLIEST ANTIQUITY  
TO  
The present Time.

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CHAPTER I.

CONTAINING OBSERVATIONS UPON THE STATE OF ITS ATMOSPHERE ; ITS TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION ; AND AN ACCOUNT OF ITS RIVERS, POOLS, BRIDGES, AND ROADS.

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WHEN the observing and sentimental traveller from the south, has arrived upon Ruddington-hill, and his eyes are cast forwards, he beholds, with equal astonishment and admiration, the ancient and celebrated Town of Nottingham, extending itself irregularly over the summit, the sides, and at the foot of an almost perpendicular rock, which terminates the site, in a south-eastern direction, which was occupied by the extensive forest of Sherwood, so renowned in song and ancient story, for the valorous exploits of Robin Hood and Little John.\* The prospect of Nottingham from Ruddington-hill, is doubly delightful, to the approaching stranger, in the summer season ; for while the town exhibits an appearance similar to that presented towards the sea by the celebrated city of Genoa, the bold, decorative, and native scenery which surrounds it, almost beggars all description.

The genial refulgence of the south and south-west sunbeams, which shine, unobstructedly, upon the gardens, and extensive fields and meadows of Nottingham ; and the gently slooping

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\* This ancient forest used to be visited in the summer season by great numbers of the merry-hearted mechanics and artizans of this town, with their wives and sweethearts, in what they called *nutting parties*, who took with them provisions and liquor for the day ; and also a fidler, to whose melodious strains they capered on "the light fantastic toe," until the sun hid his golden head in the western clouds. These happy sports, which revived in the mind the rural simplicity of the days of yore, have been rapidly on the decline since the year 1793 ; and the various inclosures on the forest have brought them to a close.

hills, which rise in graceful succession to a considerable distance, sheltering the town, in a great measure, from the northern and eastern blasts, unite in forming such grounds into a kind of *natural hotbed*. And when these grounds are aided too by a requisite portion of industry, they present a luxuriance scarcely surpassed by any part of the kingdom. The floods, which, in the winter season, generally overflow the meadows, contribute much to their fertility; but when they happen in the summer season, they often do much damage, by laying and sanding the grass; or, if in harvest time, by sweeping away the hay. But more of these floods hereafter.

As the traveller approaches the town, his eye is entertained on the right with the extensive view of the Vale of Belvoir, and the hanging woods and rural scenery of Colwick, the family residence of the Musters's. In his front, and to the left, he beholds the flat open meadows of Nottingham, which spread open their flowery bosom to welcome him to town; while further westwards he beholds the beautiful and towering structure of Wollaton Hall, the country residence of Lord Middleton;\* and the rich fields of Beeston open to his view: the latter being diversified with plantations and the country seats of the wealthy tradesmen of Nottingham, who have acquired competencies by their industry or good fortune, where they live retired from the bustle and contention of the world.

One of the diversifying beauties, in the landscape we have been describing, is the rolling of the majestic

### TRENT.

For a considerable distance, before this river reaches Nottingham, its rapid current nearly takes a northern direction; but when it arrives at the foot of our meadows, it seems almost to make a stand, as though it were offering its finny store, and the use of its limpid streams to the inhabitants of this town; after which it takes an eastern direction, and swiftly rolls along to seek its bed in the grand and tumultuous reservoir of the world.

This river, which is the third in England, both for size and beauty, issues from three springs, between Congleton and Leek, in Staffordshire, flowing south through that county; and, having received the *Tame*, it takes a north-eastern direction, and enters Derbyshire, after its junction with the *Dove*; crossing the northern angle of that county, and forming, for a short space, its separation from the counties of Leicester and Nottingham. It enters the latter county at its south western extremity, after having received the *Derwent* into its bosom. It then takes an oblique direction towards the eastern extremity of Nottinghamshire, forming, on the north-eastern angle of that county, the boundary between it and Lincolnshire, and then falls into the *Humber*, about twenty miles below Gainsborough.

The rich productions of the inexhaustible mines and mountains of Derbyshire are brought down the Cromford canal, a junction being formed between it, the Erewash, and Nottingham canals, at Langley Mill, near Eastwood; and about eight miles north-west from Nottingham. The Erewash

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\* This majestic fabric was erected by Sir Francis Willoughby, in the year 1583. The stone of which it is built, he obtained from Ancaster, in Lincolnshire, in exchange for Wollaton-pit coal.

canal begins at the above-named junction ; and, after skirting from thence the south-eastern extremity of Derbyshire, empties itself into the Trent at Sawley. The Nottingham canal also begins at the junction ; and after passing through the liberties of Eastwood, Newthorpe, Cossal, Trowel, and Wollaton, (at all of which places, pit-coal is gotten in abundance,) and skirting the northern extremity of our meadows, it falls into the Trent, a little below the Trent bridge, nearly opposite the entrance into the Grantham canal. These continued advantages give a facility to the commerce of this town, which places it, in that respect, as it is in many others, almost without a rival, in the inland counties.\*

There is a company established by act of parliament, (which secures the watermen one perch on each side of the river, as a halting-path,) to keep the course of the Trent clear from all obstructions ; but this task they have not been able to perform ; in consequence thereof, a branch of the Nottingham canal has been brought from the top of Beeston meadow to Lenton, which enables the boats to avoid the shoals of Wilford, so obstructive in the summer season.

The Trent is accounted the glory of Nottinghamshire ; and the only inconveniency arising from its waters, is it being subject to great and frequent

### FLOODS.

Deering informs us, in page 164, of a very remarkable flood, in 1683, which was occasioned by the breaking up of a frost, that began in September the preceding year, and lasted till the 5th of February in the year above named ; when the vast sheets of ice tore down part of the Trent bridge, which was rebuilt of stone by the Corporation ; the whole of it, prior to that time, being of wood. An account of a notable flood is handed down to us by tradition, generally called *the Midsummer flood*, which happened in 1728. The most remarkable flood, since that time, or perhaps before it, was occasioned by the breaking up of a frost, which began December the 24th, 1794, and lasted till the 9th of February following, during which intermediate time there was such a vast fall of snow as had not been equalled for many years ; nor was its quantity lessened by intermediate thaws. And when the thaw took place, it was so excessively rapid, that there was not a valley in the counties of Stafford, Derby, or Nottingham, but what was converted into a river, the current of which carried along, with irresistible fury, vast sheets of ice, and half melted snow ; posts, rails, timber, sheep, &c. into the Trent ; which overflowed its banks to such a height, that the inhabitants of Narrow-marsh, and its vicinity (a street in this town running parallel with the meadows) were made prisoners in their habitations during two days and nights ; the water being upwards of three feet deep in some of their houses, which did considerable damage to their furniture. The house of Alderman Hornbuckle, and one known by the sign of the White Hart, (now the Star and Garter) then kept by an old maid of the name of Selby, were

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\* It must be confessed, however, that the people of Nottingham have been miserably deceived respecting the price of coal ; for instead of having that article cheaper, as was expected, through the conveyance of the canal, which was opened the 30th of July, 1793, the price has been considerably advanced.

just above the water-mark ; therefore, the height of this flood may be known, so long as those houses stand.\*

Northwards of the town, and at the extremity of its fields, formerly were two large coppices ; but which are now cleared of their woody covering, and let on leases by the Corporation. In the copy which I have of Deering, the following words are written on one of the margins :— “ These coppices, in 1712 and 13, had twenty burgess parts ; each part had twenty shillings paid “ by the Chamberlains.” At the foot of these coppices a spring arises, and is joined by the stream of another, which arises about midway between it and the town ; the latter of which used to be walled around, and have an iron ladle chained to the wall, by the side of a trough, to enable passengers to drink. These rivulets, when united, form a current, which is called the *river Beck* ; which, after washing the eastern extremity of the town, falls into the Leen. This small river, during the last mentioned flood, was swelled to a prodigious degree, and intirely inundated Plat-street, and the adjoining yards, or streets, as they are now called, which compelled the inhabitants, who dwell in low kitchens in that neighbourhood, to seek shelter elsewhere. But the most damage which this flood did, within the liberties of Nottingham, was at the Leen bridge, and on the flood road ; the former, and as much of the adjacent road, as the county was compelled to keep in order, cost £550 repairing. The flood bridge, commonly called the *Ten Arches*, and which had very lately been erected, was so shattered, as to render all attempts to repair it ineffectual.

There was a very large flood in May, 1787, which did much damage ; but it was not so high as that which was at its height on the 28th of February, 1809, when the water entered the houses in Narrow-marsh.†

Previous to the building of the Ten Arch Bridge, the common road, between the Leen and the Trent Bridges, was round two pools, except in time of high water, when there was a road over them, on wooden bridges, which had been erected for that purpose. When the road round the pools was dry, chains were fastened across the bridges which went over them ; and thence they were called *Chainy Pools*. The largest and deepest of these pools used to contain good store of fish ; but it is now intersected by the canal, and is daily filling up ; and the pleasure which the angler enjoyed on its banks is passed away, never to return. In 1766, the bridges which went over these pools were rebuilt, at the expense of the town ; they, however, are now removed, never to be replaced. We are now about to relate a circumstance or two, which to some may seem ill-timed, as we have not done with the Trent ; but, as the subject is connected with the mischievous consequences of the flood in 1795, we will enter upon it here.

An act of parliament, bearing date the 19th of May, 1796, entitled an act for raising, maintaining, and keeping in repair, the road from the north end of the *Old Trent Bridge*, to the

\* Throsby, in his account of this flood has described it twice ; in page 71, he says it happened on Sunday, February the 7th. And in page 129, he says it happened in March. Now, unfortunately for the correctness of Throsby, Sunday was on the 8th of February, in 1795. The truth is, that this flood began on Monday the 9th of February ; and on Tuesday it was at its height. The height of this and another flood has since been marked on the west side of the Seven Arch Bridge.

† At this time, a whole street of houses was undermined in the city of Bath ; when many of the miserable inhabitants were buried in the ruins.

west end of St. Mary's Church-yard, by the way of Hollow-stone, in this town ; and for erecting and maintaining such, and so many flood bridges upon the said road, as may be necessary to carry off the flood water ; and for widening and improving the entrance into the town, by way of Hollow-stone, gives to twenty-five commissioners, the power of erecting a toll-bar on the said flood road, to enable them to carry the above designs into execution ; with this proviso, that they should, with all convenient speed, erect a sufficient number of bridges to carry off the water in times of need.

In the ensuing August, the workmen began to remove the Ten Arch bridge ; when by the springing of one of the arches, three of them lost their lives.

A clause in the above-named act, more striking than the rest, is, that which compels the Corporation of this town to pay £100 a year, out of an estate, which was given to them for quite a different purpose, towards keeping the flood road in repair. The reason assigned is, that they had voluntarily repaired it some time, which was to save the expense thereof to the parish of St. Mary ; and, as such, it became a disputed point in law, whether they were not liable to keep it in repair in future : to avoid litigation, the Corporation conceded the point.\* Lest, however, from the strangeness of the circumstance, the reader should not give credit to the relation, I will give the clause in question, which is as follows :—“ And whereas by royal charter, bearing date at “ Westminster, the twenty-first day of February, in the fifth year of the reign of his Majesty, “ King Edward the Sixth, in consideration of the great burthens and expenses, by the Mayor and “ Burgesses of the town of Nottingham, daily sustained in and about the amending, supporting, “ and repairing their bridges upon the water of Trent, had determined to give, and confirm unto “ the said Mayor and Burgesses of the town of Nottingham, and to their successors for ever, the “ lands, tenements, hereditaments, and other premises thereafter expressed and specified, which “ determination and grant would have been executed and fulfilled, if the death and decease of the “ father of the said King Edward the Sixth had not prevented it, the said King Edward the Sixth “ attentively contemplating, affecting, and considering the premises, and being willing entirely “ to fulfil and perform the aforesaid promises of his father, to the aforesaid Mayor and Burgesses “ of the said town of Nottingham, to the intent that the said Mayor and Burgesses might be better “ able to support and sustain the burthens of the repairs of the aforesaid bridges, did give and “ grant to the said Mayor and Burgesses of the said town of Nottingham, for the repairs and “ support of the aforesaid bridges, the messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments in the said “ charter more particularly mentioned and described, then of late belonging the Chauntry of St. “ Mary, and the Hospital of St. John, to hold and enjoy the aforesaid premises, with the “ appurtenances, unto the said Mayor and Burgesses of the said town of Nottingham, and their “ successors for ever, to the purpose, use, and behalf of the said Mayor and Burgesses and their “ successors for ever, to hold of the said King and his successors for ever, as of his Castle of “ Nottingham, in free socage by fealty, in lieu of all other rents, services, and demands

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\* When the canal was cutting, the Corporation, as I believe I am correctly informed, gave £750 to the Canal Company, towards raising the flood road, and building the Ten Arch bridge.

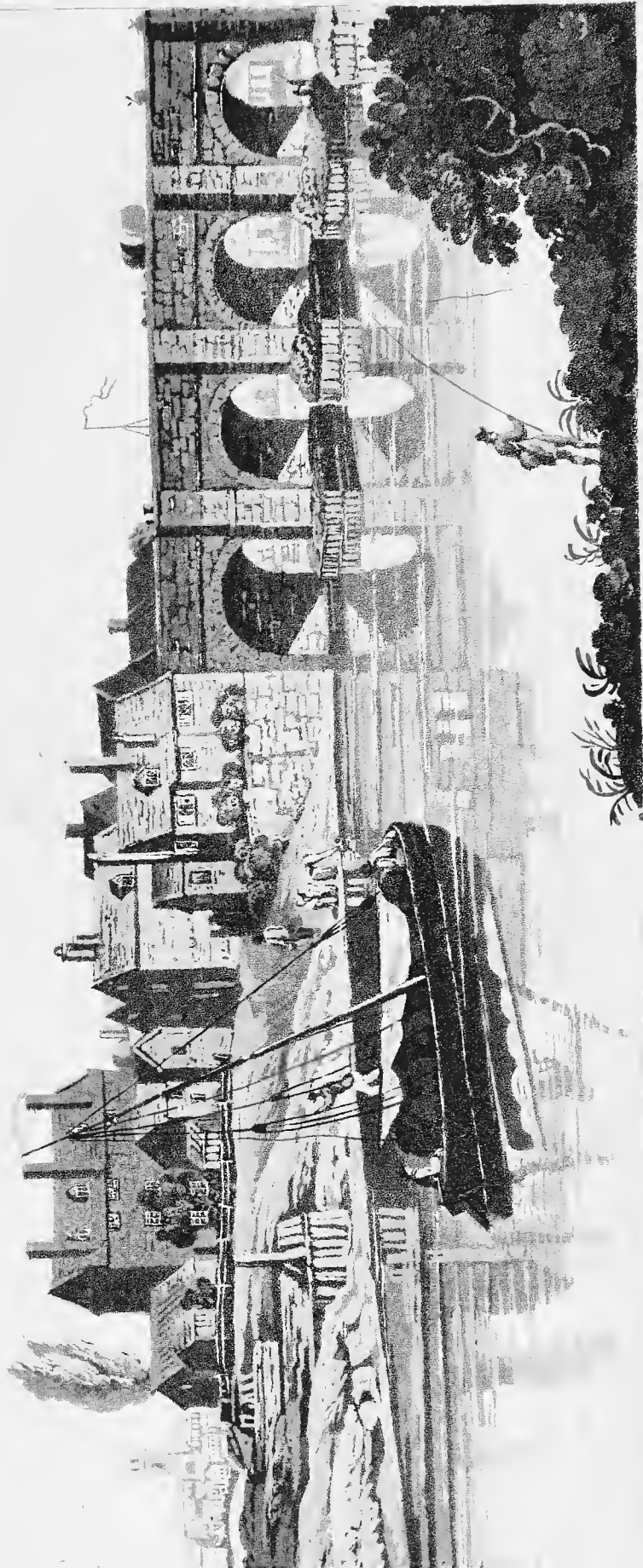


“ whatsoever : and whereas the said Mayor and Burgesses, by virtue of such charter, have ever  
 “ since held and enjoyed certain messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, in the said  
 “ town and county of the town of Nottingham, which are called or known by the name of the  
 “ *Bridge Estate*, some part of the rents, issues, and profits whereof, after being in the first place  
 “ applied to the repairs of the bridges over the river Trent, has for some years last past been  
 “ expended in the repairs of the road from the said bridges to the town of Nottingham, in  
 “ consequence whereof many doubts, questions, and differences have arisen, whether the said  
 “ Mayor and Burgesses, as the grantees of such *Bridge Estate*, are not chargeable by law with  
 “ the repairs of the said road, in its former state of a wash road. And whereas, for the purpose  
 “ of putting an end to such questions, differences and disputes, the said Mayor and Burgesses have  
 “ agreed to charge the said lands, tenements, and hereditaments, commonly called the *Bridge*  
 “ *Estate*, with a perpetual clear yearly rent charge, to the amount of £100, to be paid at such  
 “ times, and in such manner and proportions as are hereinafter directed by this act, to be for ever  
 “ applied, in conjunction with the tolls hereinafter directed to be made payable, in the repairs  
 “ of the said road, as a flood road, in consideration of the said Mayor and Burgesses, and the  
 “ said parish of St. Mary, in which the said road is situate, being by this act for ever exonerated  
 “ from any obligation, either by law or custom, or otherwise, to contribute to the repairs of the  
 “ said road, and from all costs, charges, and expense attending the same.”

By another clause in this act, it is enacted, that the Leen bridge is for ever taken out of the hands of the county ; and the £550 it cost repairing, in 1795, was to be paid back into the county stock by the commissioners of the said road. Thus the Corporation, for doing an act of kindness to the parish of St. Mary, and for facilitating the commerce of the town, are charged with the payment of £100 a year ; while the county, for merely doing its duty, and what it was compellable to do by law, has had a considerable sum of money refunded ; and is for ever exonerated from the charge of repairing the Leen bridge !

The commissioners, for carrying the provisions of this act into execution, after the ruins of the Ten Arch bridge were removed, caused, on the first of September, 1796, the first stone of the *Seven Arch bridge* to be laid. This bridge is a strong, bold, plain, and handsome stone structure, which promises fair to resist the rage of conflicting elements, many ages to come. In length it extends one hundred and twenty yards ; at each end it is twenty yards wide ; and in the centre, fifteen. On each side is a well constructed parapet, composed of huge blocks of stone, nearly as hard as granite. On the 21st of July, 1809, the foundation of nine culverts was laid, which culverts are connected with the Seven Arch bridge by a stone parapet, as is the Chainy Pool arch, which was rebuilt at the same time. The whole presents a noble appearance ; and takes off an immense quantity of flood water ; but still there wants another range of arches erecting, between the Leen bridge and the Seven Arches, to complete the object of the undertaking.

We will now return to the Trent ; first giving an account of its BRIDGE, which leads from hence to Bridgford, Rapin, without reserve, states this bridge to have been built by Edward the Elder, in the year 924 ; probably to secure a communication with the garrison of this town ; and for the



VIEW OF THE RIVER TROUT, NEAR NOTTINGHAM.



greater facility of passing his troops over the river, to oppose the inroads of the Danes. It is likewise stated by several historians, that Edward built the village of Bridgford at the same time, doubtless as a place of shelter for the soldiers, whose duty it was to defend this highly important pass.

It is contended by some people, that what Deering says of this bridge, as being wholly composed of wood, prior to the tremendous flood in 1683, is altogether fabulous, because, they think the present structure has a much older appearance, and as several of the arches are of a different construction to the rest. On this subject let our antiquary speak for himself. In page 164, he says, "There was a bridge over the Trent above an hundred years before the conquest, built by order of King Edward the Elder; in the year 1683, when the ice tore away part of this bridge, it had only stone piers, and the bridge itself was wood, built in the same manner as the two small bridges are between this and the town bridge. Since which time it is entirely rebuilt of stone, supported by twenty arches, at the expense of the Corporation." Here,\* our author gives the time of the old bridge's destruction, the manner of its being destroyed, its formation, and the materials of which it was composed prior to such destruction, and also by whom it was rebuilt. And as he lived in the town within fifty years of the time when he states the bridge was washed down, he would have his account thereof from persons who were residing here at the time; and who saw the old one in ruins, and the new one built. In support of Deering's assertion, there is a stone in the eastern wall of the bridge, with a Mayor's and two Chamberlains' names, in a defaced condition, and the figures, according to Deering's statement, may be the date of the bridge's completion. And, though nine years is a longer time than may seem necessary for the erecting of such a bridge; yet, all surprise on that head will cease, when it is considered, that the whole expense came out of the rental of the bridge estate, which would not be sufficient to meet such an expense in a shorter time, except the Corporation had mortgaged such estate. Nor does the circumstance of several of the arches being of a different construction to the rest, furnish any solid argument against Deering's assertion; for they may have been erected in the place of others which might give way before the building was settled; and the Gothic points at the crown might be substituted for the common curve, under the idea of thereby obtaining additional strength. As to the bridge bearing eternal marks of the ravages of time, which seemingly may justify a conclusion of its more extended age, it should be remembered that no bridge can possibly stand more exposed than it does to the rage and vicissitudes of conflicting elements. It consists of seventeen arches,† and was so narrow at the southern end, that two carriages could scarcely pass; until the Corporation, in 1806, ordered the eastern parapet to be rebuilt, and the arches to be lengthened; which has rendered it tolerably commodious. In 1810, a range of building, that stood at the eastern side of the northern end, was taken down; when this end of the bridge also, was widened; as well as the bridge over what is called the Old Trent.

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\* We are told, that the first stone bridge that was built in England was erected by Matilda, Queen to Henry the First, at Stratford; which being arched like a bow, gave the name of Stratford-le-Bow to the town.—*History of Stamford*.

† The number of arches, mentioned in Deering, may have been occasioned by a mistake of the printer.

Dr. Thoroton says, from an escheat roll of the 30th of Edward the First, that this bridge bore the name of *Hethbeth-brig*; which in Deering we find rendered *Highbath-bridge*, from the Saxon language; an appellation supposed to have originated from a number of wooden coverings having been erected just above it, to conceal people from the eye of the passengers, while in the act of bathing; two of which were standing upon piles in our author's day. The entire removal of these coverings reflects no great credit on the present age; for the indecency and danger of public bathing in the Trent, are too conspicuous to require any illustration here.

From the same escheat roll, Dr. Thoroton gives us the following extract: "That the jury found it not to the King's loss, if he granted licence to John le Paumer, and to Alice his wife (who was sister and heir of Hugh de Stapleford, son of Robert de Stapleford, of Nottingham,) to £6 13s. 5d. rent, with the appurtenances in Nottingham, to a certain chaplain, to celebrate divine offices for the souls, &c. in the chapel of St. Mary, on *Hethbeth-brig*." To which extract Deering subjoins, "where, in the doctor's time, there was an arch, which went still by the name of *chapel arch*, but at this time it is not remembered by any body I have met with." Our author conceives this chapel to have stood near the road, and between the south end of the bridge and a plot of land called *Lady Bay*, which forms the eastern boundary of the town's liberties; and to which, he supposes, this chapel might give the name. For three reasons this solution appears to me improper: first, because, if this chapel stood so far from the main road, passengers would pass by unnoticing and unnoticed; and, consequently, lose the benefit of the prayers, and the priest the profits resulting from their credulity. Secondly, because the plot of ground called *Lady Bay* very probably took its name from being the pasture of my *Lady's Bay Mare*, or a mare called *Lady Bay*. Thirdly, and which is by far the most powerful argument against Deering's opinion, Thoroton says expressly, that the chapel stood upon the bridge; therefore it could not stand near *Lady Bay*. If I may hazard a conjecture respecting this chapel, it is that it stood at the western corner of the northern abutment of the bridge, near the public-house; and that opposite to it stood a watch-house, on part of the foundation of which stood that building which was taken down in 1810. I am strengthened in this opinion, from the known practice of the Romish priests, in causing chapels to be erected near straight passes, which enabled them to work upon the superstitious feelings of passengers, exciting their benevolence in support of hypocrisy and fraud.

During the troubles in the town, which were occasioned by the feuds between Charles and his parliament, there was a fort erected at the Trent bridge, which was alternately possessed by the Nottingham republicans, and the Newark royalists; and which Deering considers to have stood upon *Hooper's Sconce*; but the publication of the memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson has completely refuted this opinion: though, from the meaning of the word *Sconce*, he judged rightly that a fort had been erected on the spot. For, one winter, when fortune smiled upon the Newarkers, they sought to lay this town in ashes; to prevent which, Colonel Hutchinson inundated the meadows, and caused Hooper, one of his engineers, to erect a fort on the southern bank of Tinker's Leen, close by where the bridge stands, which leads from the high bridge over the canal to Wilford-ferry,

where is still a small elevation ; and by means of this fort the Colonel was enabled to command the Trent-lane ; i. e. the flood road ; and to frustrate the designs of the Newarkers.\*

The fort mentioned by Whitelock, from whom and from tradition, Deering obtained his information on the subject, stood near the north end of the Trent bridge ; for, Mrs. Hutchinson says (and she was an eye witness) when the Colonel and his men were making their approaches to take it, that they got possession of a small island, or sand bank, a little above the bridge ; and that the besiegers and besieged could converse together, “ as they were, at furthest, within “ carbine shot.” The military works on the *Rye-hills*, or *Royals*, as the high part of the meadows is called, which were visible a few years ago, no doubt were the remains of the trenches cut by the Colonel, to secure his men from the enemy’s fire, while he was making his approaches to the fort, as he was several days and nights engaged in the undertaking ; notwithstanding which, he had but three men wounded on the occasion. When the Newarkers saw the invincible bravery of the Colonel and his men, they deserted the fort in the night ; and, such was their panic, that they broke up two arches of the bridge, to prevent an immediate pursuit. The possession of this fort, to the Colonel, was of very great importance, as, when it was occupied by the enemy, the town was in constant danger, and his means of receiving succours from the south were rendered very precarious. The reader will be enabled to form an opinion of the magnitude of this fort, when he is told, that the Newarkers left in it eighty sheep, an hundred loads of coal, twenty quarters of oats, much hay, and a great quantity of lead.

At a small distance from the north end of the great bridge, is a dead water, over which is a bridge of one arch, which water is known by the name of the *Old Trent* ; the course of the river having evidently been changed, for a short space, by the power of man ; but at what time is uncertain, probably when the bridge was built by Edward the Elder. Between the bridge and Wilford ferry-boat there are also, evident marks of the river’s having run further north, than it does at present ; and the current there is constantly endeavouring to force itself to the south. The water’s surface at the bridge is sixty-one feet four inches higher than where it falls into the Humber.

The Trent has long been famous for the value and variety of its fish ; so much so, that one of our poets thought well to compose the following stanza on the subject :

“ The beauteous Trent within itself enseams,  
“ Thirty kinds of fish, and thirty different streams.”

It is recorded in Domesday-book, that the burgesses of Nottingham complained of being prohibited from fishing in the Trent. This proves, beyond all doubt, that they possessed the right of fishing in this river, coeval with their burgess tenure ; a tenure, which according to the learned civilian, Serjeant Heywood, they hold by prescriptive right, and not as a royal boon. This complaint proves also, that they had been deprived of this right ; probably by William the

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\* Tinker’s Leen is a small rivulet, meandering in an eastern direction along the meadows ; it being the product of several contiguous springs, and the drainings of the meadows. It passes under the canal at the seven arches, and then finds its way to the Leen. There used to be two plank bridges over it, one leading to Wilford-ferry, and the other to the pinder’s house ; but, in 1809, the Corporation caused good bridges to be erected in their stead : and others in various parts of the meadows.

Conqueror, to gratify William Peveral, his bastard son; for we find the latter, in the reign of Henry the First, granting the tithe of this fishery to the monks at Lenton; while it is reasonable to conclude, that he kept the rest for himself. It is also fair to conclude, when Peveral and his descendants lost all power in these parts, that the burgesses resumed their right of fishing in the Trent; which right they still possess, within the liberties of the town.

Deering represents the practice of the people of Nottingham going a fishing as a cover for idleness. In some instances he may be right; but, as a *general practice*, I beg leave to differ from him; for if exercise and recreation were to be denied to the sedentary mechanics and artizans, they would soon be eaten up with rheumatisms, asthmas, and consumptions, for want of action to aid the stomach in the office of digestion, and to keep the animal juices in due order and circulation. Our author likewise gives us the following alphabetical list of fish which are caught in the Trent. To wit: barbel, bream, bulhead, burbot, carp, chub, crayfish, dace, eel, flounder, grayling, gudgeon, lampern, lamprey, loach, minnow, muscle, perch, pike, roach, rud, ruff, salmon, salmon-trout, salmon-pink, sand-eel, shad, smelt, strickleback, sturgeon, stream-pink, tench, trout, and whiting; in all, thirty-four.

Respecting the etymology of the name of this river authors disagree. Baxter, according to Deering, supposes it to have been of Roman origin, and gives us *Troventio* for its name; while he says Ravesmas called it *Troantia*. On this subject I shall give Deering's words, as being consonant with my own opinion. He says, "I shall not mispend my time in any further fruitless etymological inquiry, but take the Saxon name from Camden, which is *Treonta*. This might very easily, in process of time, lose the *o*, and become *Trenta*, which is the name I find in all charters and records wheresoever this river is named."

Before quitting this noble river, we will drop a few observations on the influence it has on the atmosphere, and how far it is probable, such influence may tend to promote the health of the inhabitants of this town. When the sun has hid his refulgent head beneath the western horizon, and ceases to rarify our atmosphere with his beams, the effluvia, which exude from ordure, unswept kennels, butchers' shops, fellmongers' vats, &c. condense into noxious vapours, which, for want of some attractive power to draw them away, often prove the source of pestilential fevers, and other distempers, destructive to the human frame. But here, no sooner does the atmosphere regain a sufficient degree of gravity, from the enlivening dawn of the east, to enable it to bear up the fogs and vapours from the surface of the earth, than the impetuous current of the Trent drags them along, by means of its attractive power, till they are lost in the refreshing breezes on the coast. This beneficent influence will be more apparent to the reader, if he will notice, that, in the winter season, when the sun has scarcely the power of rarifying the atmosphere, the meadows will frequently be clear, in consequence of their propinquity to the Trent, while the forest air is hazy and thick; particularly in a forenoon, when the atmosphere has not obtained a sufficient degree of elasticity to enable it to bear up the fogs and vapours above the level of the hills, so as to bring them within the attractive power of the Trent. The flat and delightful vale, which is bounded on one side by the sloping hills of Clifton and Ruddington, and on the other by those of Beeston, Nottingham, Colwick, and Carlton, and which receives the frequent breezes from the west, south-west, and north-west, operates as a conductor to the foggy and noxious vapours which arise in this town;



and likewise to the tempests which gather in the higher regions ; hence so few dreadful thunder storms about this town, to what there are in those parts of the kingdom where the like advantages are not enjoyed. For, except the atmosphere be so destitute of elastic power, as not to be able to bear the congregated bodies of sulphur and nitre, above the lower current of the air ; and the wind blows from the east, south-east, or north-east, the growling thunder will threaten us in vain with the effects of its fury ; and when these circumstances do not combine to keep the gathering tempest lowering over our heads, we see it riding in awful majesty down the current of air, which is drawn by the sweeping waters of the Trent.

To these operations of nature is to be attributed the resistance which the plague met with in the south part of the town in 1667, as much as from the influence of the effluvium exuding from tanner's ouze. It is probable however, that the burning of tanner's knobs might, in a considerable degree, assuage this destructive visitation ; and so would the burning of any thing else ; for the fire, by rarifying the foul vapours, and thereby giving them expansion, creates a vacuum, which is immediately filled up by purer air rushing in\*. In the year above-named, when people took shelter in Narrow-marsh to avoid the plague, as none died of it in that neighbourhood, there were forty-seven tanner's yards in that street. In 1801, when a fever was raging in all the higher parts of the town, and in its vicinity, there was but one tanner's yard in that street ; yet, but very few dangerous symptoms appeared in it during the time the fever was raging. But while people could be found, sufficiently credulous to believe, that the scrofula could be cured by the touch of a king, no wonder they should also believe, that the plague was wholly arrested in its progress by the effluvium arising from tanner's ouze.

We will conclude our remarks on the river Trent by noticing a circumstance which is mentioned by Dr. Plot, in his history of Staffordshire. The Doctor informs us that, in the reign of Queen Mary, two parishes *within a mile of Nottingham*, had many of their houses and churches blown down by a hurricane ; and that the water, with the mud of the river Trent, *which runs between the two towns*, were carried a quarter of a mile, and flew with such violence against some trees, as to tear them up by the roots. Though the Doctor does not inform us what villages these were ; yet, according to the description he gives of their situation, it appears that Wilford and Snenton were the villages alluded to. Throsby would persuade us, that Snenton and Gedling are the villages ; but he had forgotten that they are both on one side of the Trent ; and that Godling is four miles from Nottingham.

### RIVER LEEN.

When the traveller has passed over our canal, where coal, timber, corn, iron, stone, slate, plaster, manure, and tile wharfs abound, with their contiguous warehouses ; and where industry sits laughing on the labourer's brow, he next comes at the distance of a few paces, to the RIVER LEEN, which is, in fact, the common sewer of the town.

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\* The plague, which raged with such violence in London, in 1665, was not eradicated till a great part of the city was burnt down the following year.

This little river takes its rise in the ancient forest of Sherwood, not far from Newstead Hall.\* Then passing through Papplewick, Hucknall, Bulwell, Basford, and Lenton; then by the south-eastern borders of our park, and skirting the northern extremity of the meadows, it falls into the Trent a little below the bridge; though the following extract from the perambulation of the forest of Sherwood, in the Sixteenth of Henry the Third, will prove, that in ancient times it entered the Trent opposite Wilford church, where the old course is still preserved. "The boundaries of the forest came down, according to the course of the Leen, to Lenton, and from thence as the same water was wont of old times to run into the water of Trent." The last part of this extract proves, that the course of this river, from Lenton to where it enters the Trent. (which to every eye carries the appearance of being artificial) was made long before the time of Henry the Third; and there is strong reason to conclude, that it was made by William the Conqueror; who, in order to render the then, newly erected castle of Nottingham, a place of security, would find it necessary to bring the Leen by its foot; as well to supply it with water, as to grind corn for the use of the garrison.

At what time a bridge was built over this river, as a communication between the town and the meadows, is uncertain; but the fair conclusion is, that it was built at the time the course of the river was altered; because without it the meadows would be cut off from the town. Dr. Thoroton informs us, that in the Tenth of King John, the repairing of this bridge was undertaken by the brethren of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, in Nottingham; and, though Deering attempts to disprove this opinion, and leaves it unsettled, I shall not enter into the dispute; conceiving it of no consequence. It would seem, however, that Dr. Thoroton was wrong: for, by an inquisition taken about the Leen bridge in the Thirty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, by whom the property belonging to the hospital of St. John, was seized, it is expressed, that the said great bridge over the Leen, has, from time immemorial, been upheld and repaired by the town of Nottingham, and the several wapentacks or hundreds of the county; the town keeping the two northern arches in repair, and part of the crown between the second and the third; and the different hundreds of the county the other eighteen, according to their several proportions, which it is unnecessary to enumerate, as the commissioners for the flood road have taken charge of the whole†.

In 1765 the old bridge was taken down, it being found too narrow a thoroughfare for the increasing trade of the town; and the entrance from it, which formed an angle to the west, passing behind the Red Lion inn, and forming an oblique turn to the bottom of Hollowstone, is now brought to the east of the Red Lion inn; and thus the dangerous angle is cut off. The present bridge consists of three good brick arches; and under the northern one is a bath, supplied by a spring which rises on the spot; but it is rarely used, on account of its exposed situation.

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\* This fine seat, the property of Lord Byron, was, from the time of Henry the Second to that of Henry the Eighth, a house of regular Augustine Canons; after which it was converted into one of the most beautiful seats in England.

† Sir Thomas Parkyns, in his "Queries and Reasons," printed in 1724, says, "the Corporation have lately set up a Toll-House on their Trent bridge, and unreasonably exacted a Toll of, and from the county of Nottingham, though they themselves cannot get into their own town, without going over our Leen bridge of thirty-two arches: built, and at this very day repaired in proportion by the seven hundreds of our county."

Leland informs us, that the old bridge, was a *good stone bridge*, one arch of which is still standing under Mrs. Smalley's bakehouse, which is the first house at the east end of Narrow-marsh, on the southern side of the street. Several of the old piers were found, a few years ago, when the workmen were preparing the foundation of the Canal inn, and other buildings, betwixt the Leen and Canal, on the west side of the flood road; and such was the nature of the stone, and the cement with which it was connected, as, seemingly to bid defiance to the ravages of a thousand years. When Colonel Hutchinson, in Charles the First's reign, was assailed by envious defection *within* the town, and by superior numbers *without*, he broke up several of the arches of this bridge, to prevent a surprise; but as internal peace and prosperity soon ensued, under the stern protectorship of Cromwell, it is probable they were shortly rebuilt.

In *Magna Britannia* mention is made of the *Mill-place*; a piece of meadow land called *Mill-dam*; and the *Castle-mills*; the two former being contiguous to, and the latter *upon* the river Leen. I cannot find any spot designed by the name of *Mill-place*; but *that* formerly known by the name of *Mill-dam*, is what is now called *Spaw-close*, opposite to the castle. Taking it for granted that the castle mills stood near this spot, it justifies a traditional account that a mill, or mills, once stood at the foot of the castle rock, on the verge of Brewhouse-yard. It also justifies the opinion, of the river having been brought down to Nottingham for one of the purposes before stated.\*

## WATERWORKS.

The Waterwork Company, whose engine stands at the bottom of Finkhill-street, and at the eastern extremity of the Duke of Newcastle's estate, obtained their lease of the Corporation in the year 1696. The main wheel of this hydraulic machine sets in motion a number of crank levers, and is itself moved, like the great waterwork wheels at London bridge, by the power of the water, with which it supplies the town: leaden pipes are laid from the engine, which supply some of the lower parts of the town with water; while the higher parts are supplied from a cistern behind the General Hospital, into which the water is forced up from the engine through a main pipe.

Until the year 1782, when Thomas Hancock was chosen engineer, the company made but little progress, either in serving themselves or the public; since which time, through his ingenuity, their affairs have gone on in a prosperous way; but, on the 21st of November, 1805, this valuable member of society was lost to them, to his family, and to the world. His loss will long be deplored by every lover of social order and conviviality, who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. He possessed a quick apprehension, a clear understanding, a sound judgment, and a heart attuned to the finest touch of sensibility and benevolence.—Nature formed him a mechanic and a philosopher; and by dint of application, without the aid of a liberal education, he became an adept in optics and chemistry; and he obtained a comprehensive penetration into, and a clear understanding of the passions and governing principles of the human mind—He was my friend, as far

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\* In 1813 the southern bank of the Leen, from Finkhill-street to Turncalf-alley, was faced with stone, which was got on Mapperley-hills. The only mill now remaining upon the Leen, within the liberties of this town, stands near the bottom of Ten-bells-yard, which is opposite to the county gaol. Until the canal was cut, a road used to pass over the Leen into the meadows, close by this mill.

as a desire to aid my *then*, and, I hope, *still* expanding mind, and a congeniality of sentiment, could make him so; and this, with a tear of affection, is the only tribute I can pay to his departed manes. Could his spirit now hover over me, and be also endued with the power of articulation, he would say, with his usual engaging smile, "my friend, endeavour to imitate me in all my actions, "which can, with justice, be set down on the side of virtue; but let the remembrance of my errors "be hid in eternal sleep." His likeness was taken by Mr. Bonnington, and, after his death, it was engraved and sold for the benefit of his widow. The Waterwork Company too, to their eternal honor be it spoken, assigned a part of the engine-house as an asylum for Mrs. H. during her widowhood; and directed an annual stipend to be paid her also; which, with a little industry, will screen her from the scoffs and frowns of those contemptible abortions of nature, that sport with the widow's sufferings, because they know she has lost her protecting friend.—Reader, pardon this digression: it was due to a departed friend and departed worth, and to thyself, as an example, that thine actions may be useful to mankind. And, if I have erred, in this respect, be pleased to place such error to the account of the heart.

Independent of the water engine, many parts of the town are supplied with water by pumps, erected by the Corporation, within about the last thirty years; which stand in the following places, viz. one at the west end of Chapel-bar; two in Parliament-street, one of which is nearly opposite to the end of Sheep-lane, and the other near the top of Clumber-street; one at the top of Charlotte-street; one near guildhall, close by the spot where stood the weekday-cross; one in the shambles; one in front of the exchange; one upon Beastmarket-hill; and one opposite to the south end of Sheep-lane, near where stood the malt-cross; the latter of which pumps was removed soon after the cross was taken down. That this pump was erected for the public good, and taken away for the same purpose, to some may seem paradoxical; yet this was this case. As it stood near the centre of the entrance into the market-place it was an eyesore in the day, and an object of danger in the night; and as the ordure, which accumulated year after year in the vaults on the Long-row had so far penetrated the rock as to ooze into the well, which rendered the water, at times, quite nauseous to the taste, and altogether unfit for culinary purposes.\*

The *springs* within the liberties of the town, which are of any note, are, Trough-close spring, near Mapperley-hills; Beycroft-spring, and Rag-spring, the two latter of which are near the road leading from this town to St. Ann's-well, and are in fame for curing sore eyes. The spaw, in spaw close, just opposite to the castle, was, by far, of the greatest repute, its water being of a strong chalybeate quality, and very bracing to the nerves. But, in 1811, the close was fenced, on the leen bank side, and the spring-head was removed without the fence, in which a semi-circle was made for its admission. This unjustifiable removal of the head, has been the ruin of the spring; for, in dry weather, it ceases to flow; whereas, when in its former, and natural situation, it flowed in all seasons. And that situation too was rendered still more desirable from another spring rising near to it, whose water was of a smooth and emollient quality, and very useful to sore eyes. The principal

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\* Various attempts have been made by Mr. Walker, builder, on Tollhouse-hill, to supply the town with the defectable water of Sion-hill, but the object has not been accomplished; but, let us hope it is not given up.

inhabitants of the town are very blameable for suffering parsimony and cupidity to remove a public benefit, which, very possibly, may never be restored.

The pump water is of a hard and curdling quality, which renders it unfit for the purpose of washing; therefore those housekeepers who are not supplied from the engine are under the necessity of buying washing water of persons who fetch it from the Leen or canal; many use it also for culinary purposes, and in so doing they act rightly, as it is more congenial to the animal fluids, and less likely to create the stone and gravel in the kidneys and bladder; complaints which are rather prevalent in this town.

### ***PUBLIC BATHS.***

In most of the inland parts of England, one would think that the physicians had conspired to prevent the use of public baths, in order to the furtherance of their trade; or that the inhabitants thereof appreciate the value of their health very differently from other people, both in ancient and modern times. For though the practice of bathing is generally considered the *dernier resort* for the restoration of debilitated constitutions, yet the construction of public baths is almost entirely neglected. These observations are particularly applicable to Nottingham; for, excepting the badly constructed and badly accommodated bath, under the Leen bridge, the small one belonging to Miss Barnsdall, between the Leen and the canal, opposite to Navigation-row, is the only one in the town. There is one at St. Ann's-well; but its distance from the town, and the slovenly manner in which the house and bath apartments were long kept, have caused it to be almost deserted.

### ***PUBLIC ROADS.***

The road from Loughborough to this town, till the year 1738, was almost impassable, when an act was obtained to put it in repair; which, under the superintendence of Alderman Cooper, of Leicester, was immediately carried into effect. In 1758, acts were also obtained for the making of turnpike roads from hence to Derby, Grantham, and Alfreton; in short, turn in what direction you may from this town, you will find the roads in general in excellent condition.

Until 1740, the road from Chapel-bar to the top of the Sand-hills was a deep hollow way; at which time Lord Middleton obtained permission of the Corporation to raise it, by casting the hills into it which lay on both sides. The workmen, in performing the undertaking, found several rock walls, which appeared to have been partitions between distinct rooms; and, as they presented no marks either of Saxon or Roman formation, they were concluded to be of British construction. In 1811, this road was again heightened and improved; a footpath was made on the south side; and that on the north side was paved, and lighted with lamps\*.

The south entrance into the town is through the Hollowstone; a street cut through the solid rock; and was formerly so narrow as to admit of but one carriage passing at a time; but, on account of a man being killed in it, in 1740, the Corporation, at their own expense, caused the road to be so much widened, as to admit of two carriages passing; and in some places three. In

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\* About this time the road was stopped in St. George's close, which led to the Wheyhouse; in consequence of the mischief done to the young trees, which the proprietor had previously planted in the hedge-row.

1800, it was again widened by the commissioners of the flood road ; and the house of Mr. Barber, grocer, at the south-west corner, was taken down and rebuilt more westward ; the White Lion publichouse, on the west side of the street, was also taken down ; and the licence removed to a house on the opposite side ; the road, at the same time, being so much heightened, as to render it necessary for the second floors of the old houses on the east side to be converted into the first floors. The heightening of the road from the Leen bridge to the entrance into Hollowstone was rendering an essential service to the public ; as prior to that time, particularly till the alteration in 1740, it was a mere filthy bog.

At the entrance into this hollow way stood one of the ancient town gates, and over it a portcullis ; evident marks of which were remaining till the last mentioned year. This gate was standing, about the year 1538, when Leland visited the town ; for he says, " The gates were all down, " saving two or three ;" and, beyond all doubt, this was one of those then standing. Just at the south-western elbow of the road, was a cavity which would hold twenty men, with stone benches and a fire-place, and a flight of steps which led to the top of the rock : the room having been used as a guardhouse ; while a sentinel could go up the steps in safety, to see if an enemy were near. Deering conjectures that this guardhouse was *made* by the parliamentary troops in the time of Charles the First. That it was *used* by them, there can be little doubt ; but the probability is, that it was made at the time the hollow was cut and the gate erected.

The only other gate, a particular description of which history has preserved, was that which stood at the western entrance into Chapel-bar : it was taken down in 1743, " Under it on each " side," says Deering, " was an arched room of a pentagonal figure, of which that which had a " door opening under the middle of the gate was a guardroom ; the other, the door of which faced " the east, was a chapel for the conveniency of the guard ; hence the name of Chapel-bar." Long before the gate was taken down, this chapel was converted into a brewhouse, as an appendage to the inn at the north-west corner of Chapel-bar ; on which occasion a wag wrote the following lines :—

" Here priests of old turned wafers into God,  
 " And gave poor laymen bread for flesh and blood ;  
 " But now a liquid myst'ry's here set up,  
 " Where priests and laymen both, partake the cup."

The top of the arch over the gate was well earthed, and cultivated as a pleasure garden, in which grew a large sycamore tree ; and, in the summer season, beds of tulips displayed their variegated beauties ; while on the southern corner stood an arbour, in which six people might regale themselves, and which was gracefully shaded by the foliage of the tree.

These Babylonian beauties now are fled ;  
 And in their place, trade rears her busy head.\*

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\* Deering states, that some old people informed him, that they could remember the remains of a stone gate at the top of Lister-gate, and, from the name of *gate* being applied to the street, and the propriety of a common entrance into the town in that direction through the wall, I have no doubt as to the fact of a gate having stood in that place. Tradition informs us also, that a gate stood near the top of Clumber-street ; which, if the account be correct, must have been erected at the time the second wall was built. It is clear ; however, that nothing remained of these gates sufficient to attract the attention of Spede in 1610.

The width of this street is twenty-six feet, including about two feet on each side appropriated to foot passengers ; a space quite too narrow for so important an entrance, which opens into the heart of the market-place. Some old buildings were taken down in 1811, on the south side, which has added seventeen feet to the width of the street ; but there are others standing, which retard the accomplishment of the patriotic object of those gentlemen who planned the improvement, and sought, by personal donations to render it complete.

### MEADOWS.

Oft when the sun has hid his refulgent head behind the western hills, and, while fringing with his departing beams the lingering clouds, have I trod these delightful meads, with a mind stored with a mixture of gloomy and pleasing sensations. How oft have I, in these contemplative moods, sent up a fervent prayer, that the restless hand of power, or the spirit of internal discord never may again be permitted to spoil the native beauty of the spiring blade, the mellifluous sweets of the daisy, the crocus, and the buttercup, with destructive dissensions ; nor again incarnadine them with streams of human blood. On one side your ears are struck with a confused sound arising from the voices of conversing thousands, and the motion of their feet ; and on the other with a hollow murmur, occasioned by the rolling of the Trent ; while the romantic figure of the town seems as though it were rising to meet the darkening and descending clouds. How pleasing it is to the contemplative philosopher when industry has laid down her implements, to see her numerous offspring, both young and old, rush into these meadows to brace their toil-relaxed nerves with the refreshing breezes of the evening ; and, while they inhale the odour of the flowery herbage, or of the new mown hay, join in social conversation, or in the sportive romp ! While some are sympathizing over the miseries brought upon mankind by the hand of oppression, the crush of empires, and the clang of arms ; others are adoring the bounty of divine providence ; and others again are enjoying, by anticipation, the sweets of connubial love. The restless statesman who sets the world at odds ; and the blood-stained warrior, who delights in the slaughter of his fellow men, will seek in vain, in the evening of their days, for that serenity of soul, which the philosopher enjoys in viewing scenes like these.

These meadows contain 283 acres, comprehending the west croft, which lies between the Tinker's Leen and the canal ; and is divided into sixteen burgess parts. The land is the property of many ; but it is *commonable* to the burgesses at large, from the 6th of July to old Candlemas day ; that is, they turn in on the 6th of July ; and on the 13th of August, they drive out for the purpose of letting the herbage grow ; and, on the 3d of October, they turn in again, when the cattle remain till old Candlemas day. Each burgess having a right to the pasturage of three head of cattle, or forty-five sheep. The east croft consists of thirty-five burgess-parts, and three acres and one rood, which is called, *the Pinder's-fee* ; and is divided from the meadows by the flood road and canal ; it contains 51 acres, 2 roods, 31 perches, and used to be open to the burgesses under the following regulations—from the 19th of September to old Martinmas day, each burgess has a right to the pasturage of three head of cattle, on paying for each horse one shilling and five-pence, and thirteen-pence for each cow, to the Chamberlains, who account for twelve *gails* for the Corporation,

which belong to the Mayor, the Chamberlains, and Town Sergeants. In September, 1814, an order of hall was passed by the Corporation, which directs, that two shillings and six-pence shall be paid for the depasturing each cow, and three shillings for each horse. Out of the money so collected, the pounder for the meadows receives one penny for every head of cattle; and he and the field pounder have each a right to turn in three head of cattle. On the south bank of the Trent, and adjoining the bridge, is a close called *Over Trent-close*, which is divided among the aldermen; each one having his part allotted to him at the time of his election; on which account it is also called *the aldermen's parts*. If an alderman become reduced in circumstances, and resign his gown, it is no uncommon thing to have a pension granted him by the Corporation, during life, and the life of his consort, if she be the longer liver. There is another piece of land called *St. George's close*, containing about six acres; and is the sole property of the Corporation: it is bounded on the east by the whey-house farm; on the south west by the boat-close, and on the west and north by the meadows. There is also a portion of land on the north side of the town called the *Hunger-hills*, which is the property of the Corporation; and which has long been parcelled out by them into *burgess-parts*; and is now converted into gardens.—I strongly suspect that, that part of the whey-house farm and that part of Greasley's pasture, which lie within the jurisdiction of the town, have, at some distant period, belonged to the Mayor and burgesses; as the stones which mark such jurisdiction, and which contain the names of the Mayor and Chamberlains of the year of their erection, are found in them both. There is a traditionary tale which connects these parcels of land with a transaction of one of the ancestors of a certain great man in this neighbourhood; but prudence forbids me saying more on this head.

### SAND AND CLAY FIELDS.

These fields, which lie north and north-west of the town, contain 654 acres. Within the last hundred and fifty years, according to the best information I can obtain, these fields were entirely open; and were cultivated two years by the plough, or otherwise, as suited their respective proprietors; and every third year they were enjoyed exclusively by the housekeeper burgesses. As this plan was found inconvenient to both parties, it was agreed that the proprietors should fence their respective lots, if they chose; that the land should be laid down for mowing and pasturage, (though this is not universally attended to) and that two gaps in each fence should be made by the proprietors, on or before the 12th of August, and which should continue open till the 12th of November; during which time the production of the fields was to be the sole property of the burgess-housekeepers. From the adoption of this plan, more herbage was produced than the cattle of the burgesses could consume; many of them being too poor to purchase cattle, which caused the town to be badly supplied with milk, except what was brought from the neighbouring villages; and that, as at the present time, being skimmed to such a degree as to take from it every oleaginous particle; so that to remedy these evils it was agreed, that the non-burgess housekeepers should have the privilege, in common with the burgesses, of turning in three head of cattle each, during the commonable time. In 1807, some burgesses determined to dispute the claim of the non-burgess housekeepers; accordingly a committee was formed; and one Samuel Milner, and others



impounded the cattle belonging to a person of the name of Glover, who, by the aid of persons whose interest was concerned, brought an action against Milner, which was tried in the shire-hall, before Baron Thomson and a special jury, on the 5th of August, 1808; and the burgesses lost the trial; with this proviso, however, that none of the non-burgess housekeepers, except those that reside in what are called *toftsteads*, should have the right of turning into these fields.\*

In consequence of several incroachments being made upon these fields by the land owners erecting houses, barns, &c. on their respective lands, actions were instituted, in 1791, by one Isaac Alvey, a burgess, against Samuel Rose and Joseph Osborn, which were tried at the ensuing March assizes, before Sir Nash Grose and a special Jury; when verdicts were obtained in favor of the burgesses; with a restriction, that the buildings then standing should remain; but none should henceforth be erected, under any pretence whatsoever. Notwithstanding this decision, a number of other incroachments were made; which induced the aforesaid Isaac Alvey, (being aided by his brother burgesses) to institute actions against John Wright, surgeon, and Charles Osborn, in 1805, which were tried before Sir Giles Rooke and a special jury at the Midsummer assize; the decision being again in favor of the burgesses; and an order was made by the Judge for all the buildings, which had been erected since 1791, to be taken down; and that the burgesses should have the power, at every Lammas, of destroying or removing every new incroachment upon the fields.

### FOREST AND WASTE LAND.

The forest, including roads and small *intacks*, contains one hundred and twenty-four acres; Mapperley-hills contain fifty-seven acres and a half and two roods; and four acres and one rood are contained in the waste land, which lies on each side of the Mansfield road, between the Gallows-hill, and the entrance into the town.†

### LIBERTIES OF THE TOWN, AND MIDDLETON JURY.

When King Alfred divided the kingdom into shires, hundreds, and parishes, he allotted larger portions of land to villages than to cities and great towns; considering, that while the inhabitants of the latter gained a livelihood, by adding an artificial value to many of the productions of the earth, by converting them to various purposes for the use of man, those of the former had to supply them with food, by following the rural occupations of life. While this great and good monarch thus divided the country, he gave to the people a system of laws which made it their interest to defend it with their lives. But he did not foresee that the lapse of nine hundred years would swell the population of the manufacturing and trading towns to such an extraordinary degree, or his

\* Toft (Toftum), a messuage or house, or, rather a place or piece of ground where a messuage once stood that is decayed or casuall burnt; it is a word much used in fines, wherein we often read *Toftum* and *Croftum*. *Jacob's Law Dictionary.*

Hence *toftstead*; i. e. the place of the *tuft*, in like manner as homestead means, the place of the house—According to the practice of common law, every freehold house is a toftstead which has paid *scot and lot* sixty years; or one which stands on the site of another which has paid that length of time; or, in fact, a succession of houses standing on the same spot, which have conjointly thus paid. Hence those non-burgess housekeepers have a right, from *custom*, to turn into the fields, who occupy houses thus circumstanced within the liberties of the town.

† The admeasurement of the different parts of land, enumerated in the foregoing pages, I had from Mr. Bailey, land surveyor.

policy would have prevented him from thus circumscribing their boundaries. Nottingham has to complain, in a peculiar manner, of the unequal distribution of the land ; for while the circuit of the town is about three miles, and is daily increasing, the circumference of its jurisdiction is but ten miles ; so that were every inch of land inclosed, the whole would not furnish a sufficiency of milk and vegetables to the inhabitants, the want of which causes them to be subject to numerous exactions.

To secure the boundaries of the town, a certain number of respectable characters, annually appointed, form what is called the *Middleton, Mickleton, or Leet Jury*, and circumambulate them twice a year, with the coroner at their head. It is also the duty of this Jury to break down all obstructions in old roads ; to fine those persons who may have made such incroachments as do not immediately obstruct a public road ; and to present all nuisances to the quarter sessions. Until within a few years this Jury paid so little attention to their duty, except imposing ridiculous fines upon their novice companions, that the streets were so beset with posts, as to render it dangerous for persons to traverse them in the night. These nuisances are now generally removed ; and it is much to be wished, that the Jury would pay the same attention to the removal of spouts, which, in rainy weather, pour their liquid contents on the heads of passengers, as they walk along the streets.

### RACE GROUND.

Nottingham being one of those towns which are favored with the King's plate,\* it has long been famous for the contentions exhibited on its Race Ground. Many years this resort of pleasure could vie with most others of the same description in the kingdom, for the number of nobility and gentry that attended it ; but of late it has been on the decline, in this respect. The first course was four miles round ; which, about, the year 1752, gave place to an excellent one of two miles. This was destroyed by the Radford and Lenton inclosures, within the boundaries of which parishes it principally lay ; but, in 1798, another was made in the form of a figure of eight. But in consequence of the bad view afforded to the spectators, &c. this gave place to one of an oval form in 1813. Formerly the races were held in July ; but are now held in August ; and generally on the second Tuesday in that month. Five o'clock, too, used to be the time of starting ; but it was altered to two o'clock in 1813. Besides the King's plate, there is a subscription cup ; a hunter's stakes ; the county members' plate, of fifty pounds for three year olds ; the noblemen and gentlemen's plate of fifty pounds, for three and four year olds ; and the town plate of fifty pounds, for horses of all ages, which have never won the value of fifty pounds at any one race ; and the sport always continues three days. The *Stand* was erected in 1777, under the patronage of Sir Charles Sedley, of sporting memory ; and is a handsome brick building two stories high. The front and ends are supported by pillars, which form a handsome piazza, under which many a dashing female screens her dress from the disordering effects of a shower. At a meeting held at the White Lion inn, on

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\* A bell was the prize which was run for in ancient times, hence the phrase of " bearing away the bell ;" afterwards a piece of plate, consisting of a cup or bowl, was given by the monarch to encourage the speed in horses ; hence the phrase of " King's plate."

the 21st October, 1776, a subscription was entered into for the erection of this stand; no person being permitted to subscribe less than twenty guineas, which would entitle each subscriber to two silver tickets, to be transferrable; each ticket to admit a lady or a gentleman. Here follows a list of the subscribers, with the sum paid by each.

	Guineas.		Guineas.
Duke of Newcastle (Lord Lieutenant) - - -	200	Mr. Jonathan Truman - - - - -	20
Duke of Norfolk - - - - -	200	Mrs. Collin, <i>Elton</i> - - - - -	20
Duke of Portland - - - - -	200	Mr. Brand - - - - -	20
Earl of Lincoln - - - - -	200	Mr. James Foxcroft - - - - -	20
Earl of Stamford - - - - -	50	Mr. George Moody Brentnall - - - - -	20
Lord George Cavendish - - - - -	30	Mr. Thomas Hunt - - - - -	20
Lord Edward Bentinck - - - - -	200	Mr. S. Turner - - - - -	20
Lord Middleton - - - - -	100	J. Newton, Esq. - - - - -	20
Lord Melbourne - - - - -	50	W. Emerson, Esq. - - - - -	20
Sir Gervas Clifton - - - - -	60	W. C. Sherbrooke, Esq. - - - - -	20
Sir George Saville - - - - -	100	Job Charlton, Esq. - - - - -	20
Sir Charles Sedley - - - - -	100	John Hewitt, Esq. - - - - -	50
Sir William Boothby - - - - -	20	Rev. C. Launder - - - - -	20
Sir Francis Molyneux - - - - -	20	Mrs. Jerom - - - - -	20
John Musters, Esq. - - - - -	100	Mr. Alderman Carruthers - - - - -	20
E. T. Gould, Esq. - - - - -	20	Mr. Thomas Rawson - - - - -	20
Anthony Eyre, Esq. - - - - -	50	Mr. H. Parker - - - - -	20
John Sherwin, Esq. - - - - -	20	Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart. - - - - -	20
Abel Smith, Esq. - - - - -	50	John Kirke, Esq. - - - - -	20
Cornelius Launder, Esq. - - - - -	20	John Key, Esq. - - - - -	20
L. Rolleston, Esq. - - - - -	20	Thomas Edge, Esq. - - - - -	20
Rev. Mr. Nixon - - - - -	20	John Westcomb Emerton, Esq. - - - - -	20
Mr. John Foxcroft - - - - -	20	John Whetham, Esq. - - - - -	20
Messrs. John and Thomas Wright - - - - -	40	Dr. White - - - - -	20
Mr. Samuel Statbam - - - - -	20	Mr. Richard Dodson, jun. - - - - -	20
Mr. Thomas Martin - - - - -	20		

While the eye is delighted with the sports of the turf, the soul is swelled with exultation on beholding, in front, all bounteous nature presenting her autumnal tribute; while, in the rear, thirteen wind-mills are preparing food for the use of man.

### ST. ANN'S WELL.

This once so famous convivial haunt was, in ancient times, called Robin Hood's-well; but, by an inscription upon a stone found in the building by one Ellis, and by him communicated to Deering, it appears to have been a chapel, dedicated to St. Ann, which was erected in 1409; whence the place took its present name.

The eastern wall of the house stands upon the remains of this chapel; and the fire-place occupies the site where stood the holy altar, where *credulity* and *sincerity* have often unfolded their follies and vices to the votaries of voluptuousness, cupidity, and fraud. Here has long stood a

public-house, possessing the conveniencies of a bath, a bowling-green, and, once, well laid out gardens; concerning which Deering gives us the following quotation from his often noticed anonymous author. "At the well there is a dwelling-house, serving as a habitation for the Woodward of those woods, being an officer of the Mayor. This house is likewise a victualling house, having adjoining to it fair summer-houses, bowers, or arbours, covered by the plashing and interweaving of oak boughs for shade, in which are tables of large oak planks, and are seated about with banks of earth, fleightered and covered with green sods, like green carsie cushions. There is also a building containing two fair rooms, an upper and a lower, serving for such as repair thither to retire in case of rain or bad weather. Thither do the townsmen resort by ancient custom beyond memory."

The same author tells us, that he was present at a carousal at this place with King James the First, and a number of his toping courtiers; when, to use his own words, *they drank the Woodward and his barrels dry*.—This custom, so fondly spoken of by this author, like the good times in which it was observed, is now passed away, never to return.

There is a quantity of trumpery kept at this house, consisting of an old iron helmet, of a gigantic size, an old wicker chair, &c. which are said to have belonged to the renowned *Robin Hood*: be this as it may, they have long answered the purpose of their different possessors; as many giddy girls and their accommodating lovers used to think the having on their heads the cap of Robin Hood, and the sitting in his chair, necessary ceremonials to prepare them for the hymenial altar; and many a salute has been washed from the lips of the enamourantoes with bumpers of the Woodward's nut-brown ale.

### ROBIN HOOD.

Merely for the reader's amusement, we will drop a word or two on the subject of this famous freebooter. Rapin says, "about the year 1199, lived the famous Robin Hood and his companion Little John, who were said to infest Yorkshire with their robberies!" And, according to the *Anecdotes of Archery*, the birth place of this hero is Loxley in Staffordshire.\* And Dr. Stukeley, in the *Palæographia Britannica* calls him *Robert Fitz-ooth*, or the pretended Earl of Huntington. Others contend, that he was the real Earl of Huntington; and that he was driven by necessity to a plundering course of life, either by his youthful dissipations, or to avoid the vengeance of the crown. Sir Edward Coke, in his third institute, when speaking of Robin Hood, says, that men of his lawless profession were called *Roberdsmen*; and that the statutes of Winchester, in the 13th of Edward the First, and the 5th of Edward the Third, were made against Roberdsmen and other felons.† Stow, in his *Annals*, calls him and his followers renowned thieves. According to Charlton's history of Whitby Abbey, Robin and his determined band, bade defiance to the power of the crown, by retreating, when pursued by superior force, across

\* It is proper to infer, however, that our hero was a native of Loxley in Warwickshire, as according to *Magna Britannia*, the family of Fitz-ooth's resided there, and Robert Fitz-ooth gave a considerable portion of land to the priory of Kenilworth, in the reign of Henry the Second, whereas it does not appear that they were possessed of any property whatever at Loxley in Staffordshire.

† From this it should seem, that the word Roberdsmen was applied to all forest freebooters.

Yorkshire, and taking shelter on board his little fleet, at a place about six miles from Whitby ; and which is still known by the name of *Robin Hood's Bay*.

We are told, that his strength was so great, that he could send an arrow a mile from his bow ; and that too with the certainty of hitting his mark. But, notwithstanding his great strength of body, and prompt counsel of mind, he was doomed, in his old age, to fall a victim to the treachery of a monk. The manner of his death is thus related :—Hubert, Archbishop of Canterbury, having set a price upon his head, which caused many fruitless attempts to be made for his detection ; and at length, being closely pursued, many of his companions slain, and himself worn down with fatigue and old age, he took shelter in the priory of Kirklees in Yorkshire, about three miles from Huddersfield ; the prioress at that time being his near relation. A regular decay of nature, and a train of disappointments, brought on a disease, when a monk was called to open a vein ; but, either from ignorance or design—probably the latter, he performed the operation so ill, that the orifice could not be closed, nor the blood be staunched. Robin finding his exit fast approaching, and being desirous to point out the place of his interment, called for his bow and quiver ; and discharged two arrows, the first of which fell into the river Calder, and the second into the park ; and the spot where the last fell he desired might be the repository of his bones.—He died on the 24th December, 1247, as appears from the inscription on his tomb ; which, though it has long been defaced, has been preserved by Dr. Gale, Dean of York, together with the epitaph which we copy literally.

HEAR UNDERNEAD DIS LATIL STEAN  
LAIZ ROBERT EARL OF HUNTINGTON  
NEA AREIR VER AZ HIE SA GEUD  
AN PIPL KAULD IM ROBIN HEUD  
SICK UTLAZ AZ HI AN IZ MEN  
VIL ENGLAND NIVR SI AGEN.

*Obiit 24 Kal. Decembris, 1247.*

which may thus be rendered :—

Underneath this little stone,  
Lies Robert, Earl of Huntington ;  
Ne'er archer was as he so good ;  
And people called him Robin Hood.  
Such outlaws as he and his men,  
Will England never see again.

Evans, when speaking of our hero, in his tour, seems to think, he was one of those discontented wights that rose in arms against the system of inslōsing the open lands in the reigns of Henry the Second and Richard the First ; and that, having become inured to a woodland course of life, no consideration could induce him to quit his lovely bowers. The inscription and epitaph are, however, an undisputed testimony of the time of his death, and of his having belonged to the Huntington family ; and it is certain that he rendered himself famous in the neighbourhood of Nottingham, by often plundering the rich, particularly the clergy, and relieving the poor.—The name of the person that wrote his *Garland* is entirely lost ; which is to be regretted, as many of

his songs would do credit to Shenstone's woodland notes. A pamphlet written in the year 1652, and still preserved in the Oxford museum, says, *Little John*, or *John Little*, lies buried in Hathersage church-yard in the Peak of Derbyshire; and that a stone at his head and another at his feet, at that time retained the letters I. L. the two initials of his name.

### ***SHEPHERDS' RACE.***

Upon what was usually called Snenton-common, on an elevated spot near St. Ann's-well, was a maze or labyrinth, cut in the ground, and known by the name of Robin Hood's, or Shepherds' Race. The length of the winding was 535 yards; and the ground which it occupied was about eighteen yards on each side: at the four angles were oval projections, intersecting the four cardinal points. Dr. Stukeley thought it was of Roman origin; but Deering was of opinion, that it is of later date; yet conceived it to be older than the Reformation; as is evident, says he, from the Cross-crosets in the centre of the four rounds. He also considered it to have been cut by the priests of St. Ann's, for amusement and recreation, when they were not permitted to go out of sight or hearing of the chapel. The trenches were so narrow, that those who run the winding course were necessitated to run on the turf. As there is in general some truth for the foundation of a traditional name, it is very probable, that this labyrinth was cut by the Shepherds, in days of yore, when tending their flocks on these renowned plains.—This spot, so long sacred to rural amusements, on inclosing the lordship of Snenton, was ploughed up, on the 27th of February, 1797. A spot of earth, comprehending about 324 square yards, sanctified by the lapse of centuries, as a place of rustic sport, by the curiosity of its shape, and by the magic raptures which the sight of it awakened in our fancies of the existence of happier times, could not escape the hand of avarice, which breaks down the fences of our comfort—the mounds of our felicity; and destroys the reverence of custom, if an object of gain or of ambition present itself to view. Here the youth of Nottingham were wont to give facility to the circulation of their blood, strength to their limbs, and elasticity to their joints; but callous hearted avarice has robbed them of the spot.

### ***DRUIDS' HOLES.***

The absence of every thing, in the shape of correct information, respecting the origin of any thing spoken of, which has engaged, and divided the attention of antiquaries, is an argument in favor of its great antiquity. This opinion will apply to the cluster of caves in our park; which are indiscriminately called *The Rock Holes*, and *The Papist Holes*; but which I presume to call **THE DRUIDS' HOLES**, from an opinion of their having been made by the ancient Druids. Their rude unchiseled interior bespeaks them the work of persons unacquainted with architecture; and their fronting the rising sun and their distance from the town, demonstrate the original design of them to have been for the residence of religious devotees; who, being separated from the bustle attending the occupations of the laity, could devote their attention to their sacred functions, and be ready to offer up their orisons to the Deity at the first dawning of the day; a practice much attended to in ancient times, by every nation of the earth. That these caves were originally hewn and set apart as places of worship for the ancient Britons, I think there is but little doubt; since

the Druids, who were alike their lawgivers, philosophers, and divines, delivered their public instructions to the people in groves of sacred oak; and where could a place be found, more appropriate for their habitations than the one we are speaking of? since the forest, which abounded with oak, came down to the very spot. And, as this forest forms so conspicuous a part in the songs of yore, and legendary tales about Nottingham, we will give the following sketch of it from the pen of the late antiquary Hayman Rook, Esq. of Mansfield Woodhouse.

“ This forest, it appears, was anciently divided, or rather known by the names of *Thorney Wood*, and *High Forest*; the first of which, although the least, contained nineteen towns or villages, of which Nottingham was one. The High Forest abounded with fine stately oaks, and was free from underwood.\*

“ The forest of Sherwood extends itself into the hundreds of Broxtowe, Thurgaton-a-lee, and Basset-lawe. When the forest of Sherwood was first made I find not; the first mention of it that I do find is in Henry the Second's time; but I conceive it a forest before; for William Peverell, in the 5th of king Stephen, doth answer de Placitis Forestæ in this county. Thus far we can trace the antiquity of the forest, which is undoubtedly of very great extent. It is the only forest that remains under the superintendence of the chief justice in eyre, north of Trent, or which now belongs to the crown in that part of England. Many perambulations of this forest, made in the different reigns, are preserved in the tower, and in the court of Exchequer: the first perambulation was made in the 28th of king Edward the First; the second in the 30th of king Henry the Eighth; the third in the 14th of king Charles the Second.—The forest is, described in a survey, made in 1609, to be divided into three parts or districts, called the north part, the south part, and the middle part. The north part contains the towns of Carburton, Gleadthorp, Warsop, with Nettleworth, Mansfield-Woodhouse, Clipstone, Rufford, and Edwinstone, the hays of Birkland and Bilhagh, and the towns of Budby, Thoresby, Payerelthorpe, or Palethorpe, and Ollerton. The south part contains the towns of Nottingham, part of Wilford, Lenton, Radford, Snenton, Colwick, Stoke, Carlton, Gedling, Burton, Bulcot, Gunthorp, Caythorp, and Loudham, Lambley, Arnold, Basford, Beskwood park, Woodborough, Calverton, and Saunterford manor. The middle part contains the towns of Mansfield, with Plesley-hill, Skegby, Sutton, Hucknal, Fulwood, part of Kirkby, Blidworth, Papplewick, Newstead, part of Linby, and part of Annesley. The whole quantity of ground in the forest, according to that survey, is as follows:—

	A.	R.	P.
“ Inclosures	44889	1	10
“ Woods	9486	0	23
“ Wastes	35080	2	6
“ Clipstone park	1583	1	35
“ Beskwood park	3672	0	0
“ Bulwell park	326	3	2
“ Nottingham park	129	3	9

\* Thorney Wood division obtained that name from the oaks being mixed, here and there, with thorn trees.

“ Inclosures since the survey in 1609 :—

	Years.	Acres.
“ Arnold forest - - - - -	1789	2280
“ Basford forest - - - - -	1792	1158
“ Sutton-in-Ashfield - - - - -	1794	2608
“ Kirkby-in-Ashfield - - - - -	1795	1941
“ Lenton and Radford - - - - -	1796	261.”

After this little digression we will return to the subject of the Druids’ Holes, on which Dr. Stukeley thus speaks, in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*. “ One may easily guess Nottingham to have been an ancient town of the Britains : as soon as they had proper tools they fell to work upon the rocks, which every where offered themselves so commodiously to make houses in ; and I doubt not here was a considerable collection of colonies of this sort.” He further says ; “ This is a ledge of perpendicular rock, hewn out into a church, houses, chambers, dove-houses, &c. The church is like those in the rocks at Bethlehem, and other places in the holy land : the altar is natural rock, and there has been painting upon the walls ; a steeple, I suppose, where a bell hung, and regular pillars ; the river Leen winding about makes a fortification to it, for it comes at both ends of the cliff, leaving a plain in the middle ; the way into it was by a gate cut out of the rock, and with an oblique entrance for more safety ; without is a plain with three niches, which I fancy their place of judicature, or the like ; there is a regularity in it, and it seems to resemble, that square called a temple in the Pictish castle, plate 38 in Scotland. Between this and the castle is an hermitage of like workmanship.”

That the ground upon which Nottingham stands was the site of one of the ancient British towns, has been pretty evidently proved, independent of the Doctor’s observations ; but that the place we are speaking of was not so, I am fully of opinion : for it never was large enough to contain, what he denominates a colony ; while it was well calculated for the purpose for which I suppose it was made. Besides, the Doctor is perfectly mistaken in supposing that the original design of the formation of these caves could have any connection with the Leen acting as a fortification to them ; for, had they not been hewn centuries before the turning of that river, some account of their origin would have been found.

My object for quoting the above from Dr. Stukeley, was to give the reader an idea of the shape and extent of these caves, prior to the troubles in the time of Charles the First, when they were greatly injured by the parliamentary troops ; in consequence of their having been converted into a place of worship by the Papists ; who were then discountenanced in the town—hence the appellation of *Papists’ Holes*.

That end towards Lenton is still washed by the Leen ; while the end towards Nottingham is more than thirty yards from the river, and, with the exception of the dovecot, there is not a room left entire ; and, as what remains is constantly subject to the stroke of wantonness and the gnawing tooth of time, in all likelihood, in a few more ages, the last vestige of this effort of human labor will be buried in the dust. The cavities which are left, in summer-time, become a receptacle for cattle which agist in the park, to screen them from the scorching rays of the sun ; and in the night



they present a shelter for the commission of crime.—In the rock facing the *Queen's Garden* is a cave, which, within the last sixty years, was used as a military magazine ; but is now a storehouse for filth ; as is also another facing the road which leads from Lenton to this town.

### FISHPOND GARDENS.

Facing the castle rock, and on the north side of the Leen, there used to be a fishpond, for the use of the inhabitants of the castle ; but, after the establishment of the Waterwork Company, it was let to them to be used as a reservoir. From neglect it became a mere bog, overgrown with water-weeds ; and, in 1795, it was parcelled out by the Duke of Newcastle's steward and let to the towns-people as garden ground ; who, by great labor, cost, and patience, have converted it into a very fertile spot ; and it is now decorated with many pretty pleasure-houses ; which, when we consider that the ground is held on a six months' tenure, seems extraordinary. But, however we may be disposed to smile at the extravagance which some men display in the trapping of *hobby horses*, we are compelled to stand admiring when we see vegetation, in all its grandeur and luxuriance, in a place, which a few years ago, was a flaggy noisome bog. In 1809, part of the park hill, which had been unproductive for ages, was converted into gardens ; and another portion was planted with shrubs.

### QUEEN'S GARDEN.

In a valley, on the north side of the park, is the appearance of an embankment, of an oblong form ; to the space within the limits of which, tradition has given the name of the *Queen's Garden*.

Delicious fruit, and the delicacies of gardens, were introduced from Greece into Italy by the Romans about seventy years before the birth of Christ ; which would soon find their way into France, from the fructuous nature of its soil ; and from its early connection with the Roman power. Whether the adventurous Romans introduced the art of gardening into England, or not, is unknown ; if they did, it was lost in the destructive contentions for dominion, between the Scots, Picts, Saxons, Danes, and British, after their reluctant abandonment of the country. The art of gardening was not reduced to any thing like a system in England, till the year 1509 ; yet there can be little doubt but the Normans imported some knowledge of it at the conquest, which would be fostered, more or less by the rich in the cultivation of a few table luxuries ; and in the growth of simples, which were long considered a panacea for the diseases attendant on the human frame.—From the deposition of Edward the Second, in 1327, to the death of Mortimer, Earl of March, in 1330, Nottingham castle was the amorous retreat of Queen Isabella and this wicked Lord. From this circumstance, and the observations above, it may fairly be concluded, that the spot we are speaking of was converted into a garden for their use, for the cultivation of table necessities, and of the numerous medical herbs with which this neighbourhood abounds : hence the name which tradition has handed down. Folly itself would never have erected an encampment here, as a place of defence ; since it is assailable on every side.

### *BARRACKS.*

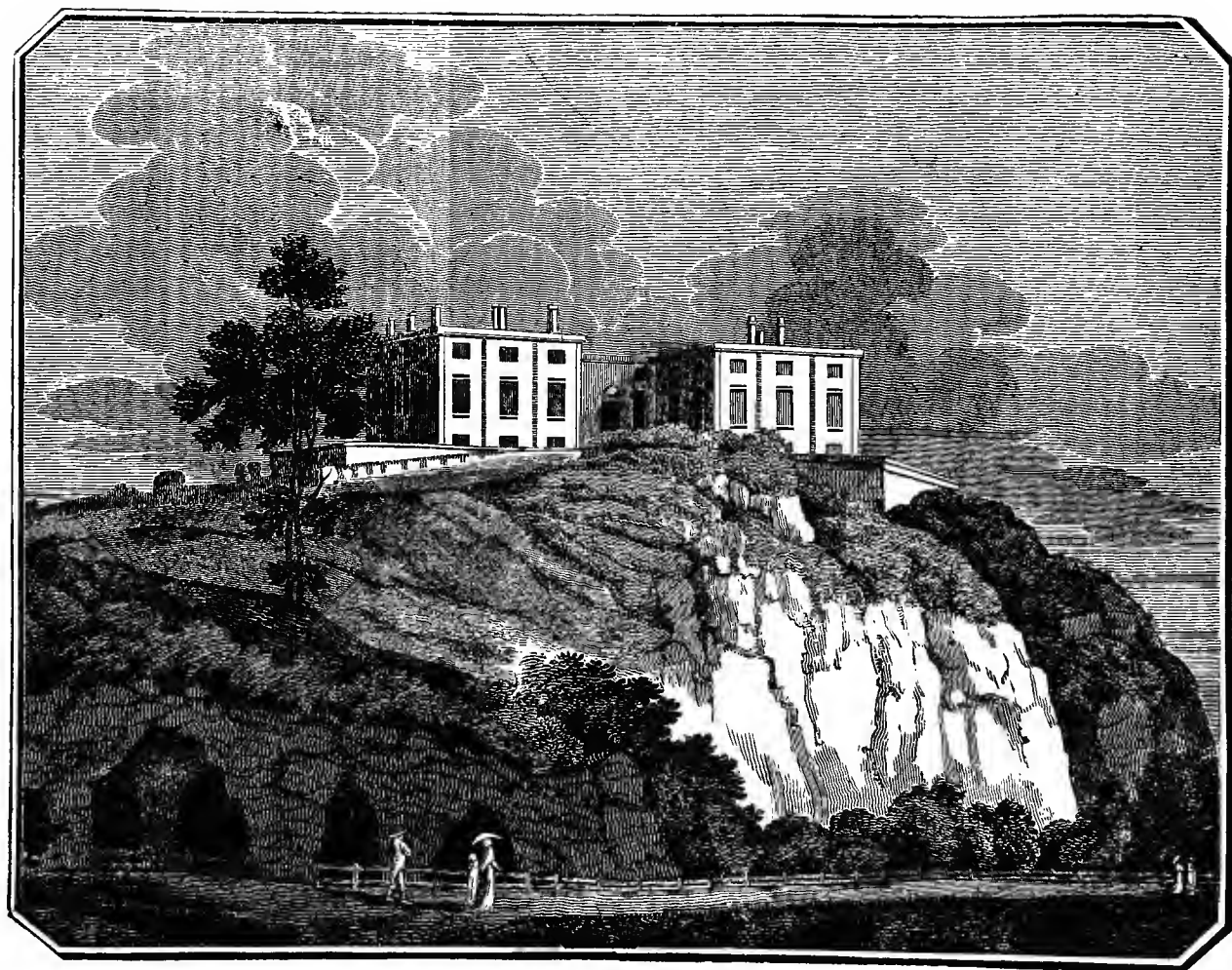
On the sixth of August, 1792, the foundation of this building was laid ; the ground on which it stands, being in the western corner of the park, was given by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle for the purpose. The site is a most delightful one ; and commands an extensive view to every point of the compass. These barracks present to the eye a handsome brick building, containing well constructed apartments for the officers, a sutling house, stabling for three troops of horse, an hospital, &c. the whole of which, embracing an extensive yard, is well walled round with brick.

A little below these barracks stands a cluster of sycamore trees, whose umbrageous foliage, in the leafy season, forms a beauteous alcove. Before this building was erected, something like magic would draw the children of contemplation to the spot, when aurora tinged the east with her golden streaks, or when the west was gilded with the sun's declining rays ; where they could enjoy the fruit of their own imagination, unannoyed by the hoarse intrusion of the sentinel's voice, or the trampling of warlike steeds. Mrs. Hutchinson informs us, that, when her husband commanded the castle, not a tree stood in the park, except one which grew at the foot of the castle rock, which she says tradition informed her, was planted by Crook'd-back'd Richard ; and concludes her observations by saying, " the tree, in unison with its planter, had not a straight inch in its whole composition."

Having now taken a survey of the site and the general exterior of the town, which stands 53 degrees north latitude, and 22 degrees 14 minutes west longitude, we shall conclude this chapter with observing, that every writer who has noticed it, at any considerable length, has concluded, that a better situation whereon to erect a town is scarcely to be pointed out by the warmest imagination ; and, with Deering, we will subscribe to the following lines :—

" Fair Nottingham, with brilliant beauty graced,  
 " In ancient Sherwood's south-west angle placed ;  
 " Where northern hills her tender neck protect,  
 " With dainty flocks of golden fleeces deckt ;  
 " No roaring tempest discompose her mien ;  
 " Her canopy of state's a sky serene.  
 " She, on her left, Belvoir's rich vale descry's,  
 " On th' other, Clifton hill regales her eyes :  
 " If from her lofty seat she bows her head,  
 " There's at her feet a flowery carpet spread.  
 " Britain's *third stream*, which runs with rapid force,  
 " No sooner spies her, but retards his course ;  
 " He turns, he winds, he cares not to be gone,  
 " Until to her he first has homage done ;  
 " He cheerfully his wat'ry tribute pays,  
 " And at her footstool foreign dainties lays,  
 " With assiduity her favors courts,  
 " And richest merchandize from sea imports ;  
 " Ceres her gift with lavish hand bestows,  
 " And *Bacchus* o'er his butt of *English nectar* glows.  
 " Thy sons, O Nottingham, with fervor pray,  
 " May no intestine feuds thy bliss betray ;  
 " Health, plenty, pleasure, then will ne'er decay."





***WEST VIEW OF NOTTINGHAM CASTLE, AND THE DRUIDS' HOLES.***

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## CHAPTER II.

CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE CASTLE, BREWHOUSE-YARD, AND THE CIRCUS.

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UPON the summit of a craggy, misshapen, and almost perpendicular rock, at the south-western extremity of the town, stands the castle ; the height of the rock being 133 feet above the level of the meadows. Mounted on so lofty a precipice, this mansion seems to bid defiance to the rolling tempest, and to court the conflict with the rudest blast. To the sight of the traveller, as he approaches the town, it presents a squat appearance, nowise corresponding with the majestic grandeur it displays to the circumspective eye.

Centuries before the Norman invasion there was a tower or citadel upon the rock, whereon the present castle stands, which we find noticed in *Magna Britannia* in the following words ; the writer of which copied most of his observations on this subject from Camden :—" The Danes, " who frequently vexed this isle with their ravages, came at length to this town, anno 852, which " when *Budred*, the last king of the *Mercians*\*, heard, he immediately besieged them, but without " success, the Danes possessing themselves of a strong tower, where the castle is now situated ; " whereupon (as Asser says,) Budred, king of the Mercians, and his people, sent messengers to " *Ethelred*, king of the West Saxons, and to *Alfred*, or *Alured* his brother, humbly intreating " them to aid them, so that they might dislodge and vanquish the Danes. This request they easily " obtained, for the two brothers having drawn forces together from all parts of their kingdom, with " as much dispatch as possible, entered Mercia, and marched to *Snottingham*, unanimously " resolving to fight ; but the Pagans refused to give them battle, securing themselves a while in " their strong holds. The Christians, who besieged them, laboured to batter down their walls, but " not being able to do that, they held on the siege so long, though with no very strong attacks, " that the Pagans, who were led by *Hengar* and *Hubba*, concluded a peace with the Mercians, " and returned home with their forces."

What storms this ancient tower underwent, from the time we have just been speaking of to the Norman invasion, so as to render its rebuilding necessary, history no where informs us ; though we may fairly conclude, that a place of such importance would be an object of contention betwixt Edmund, surnamed *Ironsides*, and Canute the Dane, the latter proving the successful competitor for the throne, and who might dismantle it, to prevent its falling into the hands of his enemies.

Authors disagree concerning who was the rebuilder of the fortress, after the conquest ; Holinshed, Camden, Stow, and Deering, contend that it was rebuilt by William the conqueror ; while

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\* Historians differ about the name of the last king of Mercia, as also about the precise time when it ceased to be a separate kingdom ; but Heylyn an author of great authority, agrees with the foregoing.

Thoroton, and Gibson, the continuator of Camden, are of opinion that Peverel, William's natural son, caused it to be done, who, as Thoroton says, had licence from the king to inclose ten acres of land, in or near Nottingham, to be converted into an orchard ; which quantity of land, continues Thoroton, according to the forest measure, contains about fifty statute acres, which is near the proportion of the old park at Nottingham : hence some have concluded, that this is the spot where the orchard stood. What our author meant by *forest measure and statute acres* is not very clear ; as the reader has already seen, that the park contains more than double the number of acres here mentioned ; except we suppose that he alludes to a smaller park which existed at a date anterior to the formation of the present one ; and there is no proof, either positive or collateral, no *datum*, land-mark, or boundaries, to indicate, that a smaller park than the present one ever existed at Nottingham. My opinion being, that the orchard alluded to did not stand here ; and also, that this identical park was laid out for the purpose of furnishing a ready supply of venison for the table of Peverel. For, after, as Thoroton informs us, the king had given to Peverel the dominion of Nottingham and of the forest, it seems strange that the latter should be under the necessity of applying for royal licence to inclose ten, or fifty acres of ground for an orchard, within the said domains. If Peverel had an orchard here, it is my opinion that it stood between the town and the Leen, part of which ground afterwards became the property of the Grey Friars.—This park was well stocked with deer until the year 1720, when they were principally driven away, because the expert deer-stealers of this town refused to let the proprietor *go halves*. Knyveton, in his survey in 1588, calls it a conygarth ; it then abounding with wild rabbits, the breed of which has been existing therein, within the last eighty years.—But to return to the old castle.

The rock on which the above named writers have split, respecting who erected it, is, that no mention is made of it in Domesday-book, which was finished in William's reign. Camden says, that William caused this castle to be built to keep the English in awe, which is the best reason that can be assigned for its erection ; for a conquering tyrant always dreads the revival of the spark of independence in the breasts of the conquered, which naturally becomes wafted into a flame when the panic has subsided, which had been occasioned by the dread of his arms. Perhaps a moment's reflection may bring the discordant notions of our historians to a settled point.

The greater part of William's reign, which lasted but twenty-one years, was pretty much occupied in settling the internal regulations of his government, in rewarding his favorites, and in keeping his southern subjects in awe ; so that it is highly probable that this castle was not built till the latter end of his reign. And, to free himself from the care of the undertaking, he might commission his son Peverel to see the work done at his own discretion ; he being a military man, and therefore fit for such an undertaking ; and, also from his possessing fifty-five lordships in the county, and being Lord of the borough of Nottingham, he would have a particular, as well as a general interest in keeping the neighbourhood in subjection. And the object not being completed ; or, possibly, the building not being begun at the time this county was surveyed, may be assigned as the cause why the castle is not mentioned in Domesday-book. These propositions being admitted, the jarring ideas of our historians are at once reconciled ; for though William *ordered* the rebuilding of the fortress, Peverel was the *ostensible character in the work*. Throsby, like a

good natured creature, leaves the matter as he found it; and endeavours to entertain his readers by laughing at the want of education in a methodist preacher, rather than run the risk of being laughed at himself, for attempting to investigate the truth.

We now come to Leland, who viewed the late castle in the reign of Henry the Eighth. "The castle of Nottingham," says he, "standith on a rokky hille, on the west side of the town: and Line riveret goith by the roots of it. The base court is large and meetly strong. And a stately bridge is there with pillars beiring beastes and giantes, over the ditche into the secund warde: the front of the which warde in the entering is exceeding strong with toures and portecallices. Much part of west side of this inner warde, as the hall and other things be yn ruines. The est side is strong and well tourrid. And so is the south side. But the most bewtifulle part and gallant building for lodging is on the north side, where Edward the Fourth began a right sumptous peice of stone work, of the which he clearly finished one excellent goodly toure of three heights yn building, and brought up the other part likewise from the foundation with stone, and marvelous pain cumpacid windoes to laying the first site of chambers, and then left. Here king Richard Third his brother forced up upon that work another peice of one loft of tymber, making rounde wyndoes, so that surely this north is an exceeding fair peice of work. The dungeon or keep of the castelle standith by south and est, and is exceeding strong. There be divers buildings betwixt this dungeon and the ynner court of the castelle, and there goith also down a stair ynto the ground where Davy king of Scots (as the Castellanes [i. e. the inhabitants of the castle] say,) was kept a prisoner." Our author farther says, "I marked in all, three chapels in the castelle and three wells."

Camden, who lived in Elizabeth's time, after giving a similar account of the castle, adds, "In the first court of this castle we go down a great many steps, with candle-light into a vault under ground, and rooms cut and made out of the stone; in the walls whereof the story of Christ's passion and other things are engraven by David the Second, king of Scotland, as they say, who was kept a prisoner here."\* Camden further says that the castle was so strong both by nature

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\* Deering, without giving full credence to this story, endeavours to illustrate it by referring to Stow's Chronicle, and informs us that he there finds David was taken prisoner on the 17th October, 1146, and that he was conveyed to Westminster on the 2d of January following. Now, not having Stow's Chronicle by me, I can say no more in reply to that author, than, that what Deering has advanced is impossible to be true; for the David here alluded to was not crowned till 1329, and, according to Hume, the battle of Neville's Cross, or Durham, in which this king was made prisoner, was not fought till October, 1346, making an error of two hundred years. David was ransomed, in 1357, for an hundred thousand marks.

Sir D. Dalrymple the Scottish historian informs us, that William of Lambyrton, Bishop of St. Andrew's, and Robert Wisheart were confined in Nottingham castle, as friends and associates of Robert Bruce, against Edward the First, king of England. Wisheart was taken in armour defending the castle of Coupar, and so attired was taken to Nottingham. Lambyrton had a daily allowance while at Nottingham, of sixpence for himself, threepence for a serving man, three-half-pence for his foot-boy, and of *three-half-pence for his chaplain*. They were taken in 1306.

The Earl of Moray (says the above historian) was taken in a skirmish by William de Pressun in 1335, and sent by Edward the Third, prisoner to Nottingham castle; his order of commitment is dated Perth, August 13th, 1335. He was removed to Windsor, 29th December, 1335, to Winchester, 25th May, 1336, to the Tower of London, the 28th September, 1336, and recovered his liberty in 1341, being exchanged for the Earl of Salisbury.

The battle of Durham, where David king of Scots was made prisoner, was fought according to Dalrymple on the 17th October, 1346. The captive king arrived in London, on the 2d January, 1347, therefore his stay in Nottingham must have been very short, if he visited it at all.

and art, as to be thought invincible, except assailed by famine, if it had a good garrison ; that it never was taken by downright force ; and that it was once ineffectually besieged by Henry of Anjou, at which time the garrison burnt all the buildings about it. Our author adds, that it was once taken by surprise by Robert, Count de Ferariis, in the Barons' wars, who deprived the citizens of all they had.

From the influence of fear and avarice Henry the Seventh suffered most of the castles in the kingdom to fall into decay : he dreaded lest they should fall into the hands of the Barons, who might thereby depose him for his tyranny as they had done others before : and avarice operated upon him as it did upon *Daniel Dancer* : it taught him in all his dealings, *that he must save*. Yet such was the strength of this castle, that neither its deserted situation, the beating of the merciless tempest, nor the gnawing tooth of time ; had been able so far to reduce it, but that it was thought a fit place, by Charles the First, as the rallying point for his forces, when he commenced the war against the liberties of his subjects.

Deering tells us, that Cromwell gave captain Poulton money to enable him to demolish the old castle after the death of Charles ; here, however, our author has misstated the matter ; for we have Mrs. Hutchinson's authority for saying, that it was her worthy husband who furnished captain Poulton with the means of dismantling it, when Cromwell was gone into the north to meet the Scottish army, for fear it should fall into the hands of that ambitious chieftain, and become an instrument in his power to enable him to overawe the neighbourhood. The colonel hated tyranny in any man ; and he saw too clearly the intentions of Cromwell to suffer a place of such consequence as this castle was, to fall into his hands, so long as he had the means of preventing it. For thus thwarting him in one of his objects, Cromwell never could endure the name of the colonel more. Thus this castle, which had partly been raised by William, and partly by Edward the Fourth, and Richard the Third, for the purpose of overawing the people, was demolished by a bold patriot, for fear it should be used for the same purpose again ; though it had received a rude shock from the avaricious hand of Francis, Earl of Rutland, to whom and his heirs it was given by James the First ; for Thoroton says, " in his time a many of the goodly buildings were pulled down, and the iron and other materials were sold." This, however, further shows what its mighty strength was once. Thoroton also informs us that it was a rectory, valued at 6*l.* ; and Deering quotes an author who said, in the reign of Henry the Third it contained a chapel dedicated to St. Mary.

Deering has preserved a curious article, which he says he copied from a forest-book, written for the use of Robert Alvey, Mayor of this town, in 1588, if there be not a mistake in the printing ; for Robert Marsh was Mayor that year ; and Mr. Alvey in 1580 and 1584. This book is purported to have been written by William Marshall, sergeant at mace :—

" The accounte of Geffery Knyveton, from the feast of St. Michaell tharchaungle in the xxvth yeare of kinge Henry the Sixth unto the same feaste next following by one whole yeare for the castle of Nottingham."

" 1st. He gives accompte of xii*l.* 8*s.* cominge of xxiiii acres of meadow, lying in a meadow belonging to the castle of Nottingham, called the king's meadow. The price 3*s.* 2*d.* so letten



" this yeare. And of xivs. the latter agistment of the same meadow betwixt Michallmas and  
 " Martlemas happeninge. And of liiis. iiid. of the farme of the close called castle-appleton.  
 " And of xxxvis. 8d. for the farme of another close called the constable-holme, so letten to the  
 " men of Nottingham. And of xxivs. of the farme of a peice of meadow called the milne-dame.  
 " And xiiis. of the farme of two peices of meadow lyeinge by the king's-bridge and the rocke-yard.  
 " And viiis. of the castle-hills without the castle-walls. And xxs. of the farme of the pindage of  
 " the castle so letten to the men of Nottingham. And of xs. of the farme of the outward, within  
 " the castle walls. And of the profit of the dove-cott nothing this yeare, but it was wont to give  
 " 3s. 4d. And of ——— for the castle miln. And of 13s. 4d. of the farme of the coneygarth  
 " of the castle this yeare, &c."

" This survey," says Deering, " was taken three years before Henry the Fourth made the town  
 " of Nottingham a county of itself, in which charter he excepts the king's hall, and the castle of  
 " Nottingham, both which remain at this day in the county at large."

The king's meadows, *earl* or *hell*, closes, as they are called, and the spaw-close, comprehend the land mentioned in the above transcript, (except the park and castle contingencies) continue extra-parochial; and therefore pay no poor's rates; a thing much to be complained of, in a town like Nottingham, where the rates are so excessively heavy.

In the copy which I have of Deering, is the following *written* marginal note: " 1378, Edmond de Bromfield was sent prisoner to this castle for accepting the Abbacy of St. Edmund's Bury from the Pope, without the king's consent.\*"

### ***DEERING'S DESCRIPTION OF MORTIMER'S HOLE.***

" This way through the rock was provided with no less than six gates, besides a side one on the left  
 " hand going down; the first was above ground leading from the turret down to the second, the place  
 " where the turret stood is now covered by part of the modern fabric, and the passage to the second  
 " gate is filled, and the gate itself walled up with stone, to this leads a new passage cut out of the  
 " rock since the building of the present castle, without the wall of the paved yard. The distance  
 " between the first and the second gate I take to have been about sixteen yards; from this we step down  
 " fourteen yards and meet with the marks of another, and fifteen yards lower was a fourth; about  
 " forty-five yards below this, on the left hand, we observe a gate bricked up; which with seven or  
 " eight steps did lead up into some works of the old tower, (as the late Mr. Jonathan Paramour  
 " informed me) in whose time it was bricked up; about eight yards below this stood a fifth, and the  
 " sixth and lowest which opened into the rock yard and is now also bricked up, is still about nine  
 " yards lower, so that the whole length of this once well secured subterraneous passage from the

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\* The following article is extracted from the numerous MSS. collected by the celebrated Marquis of Lansdown, and are now principally in the British Museum:—" *Alice Pierce*, concubine to Edward-III. was, in the latter end of his reign, so imprudent, presuming upon his favor whose weakness she had subdued, that she herself would sit in courts of justice to effect her own desires; and, at a parliament held the 50th year of his reign, at her suit, she caused Sir Peter de la Marc (late speaker in parliament, and who then exhibited complaints against her) to be committed to perpetual imprisonment at Nottingham. This gentleman, very probably, was confined in the castle.

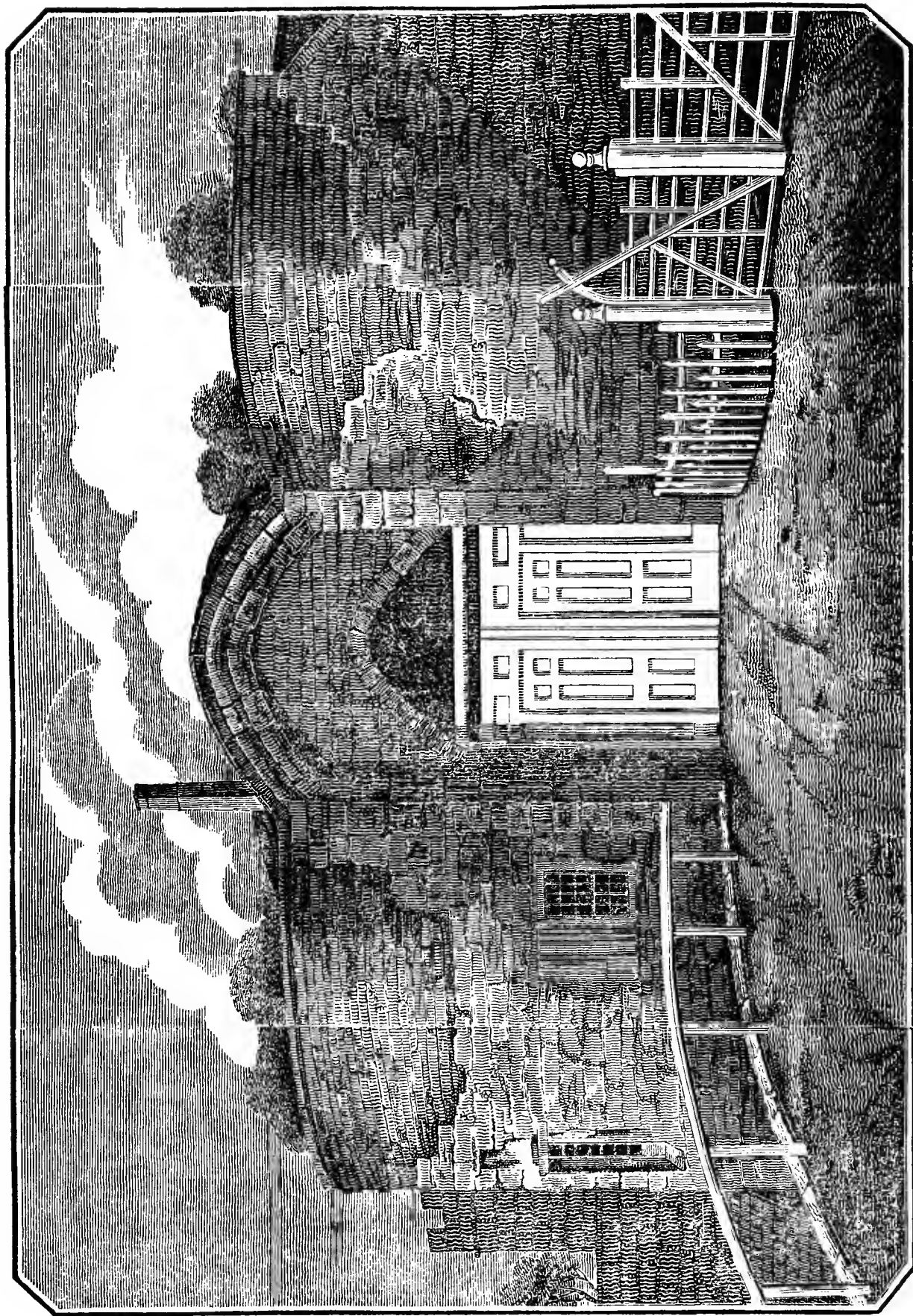
“ court of the old tower to the foot of the rock is one hundred and seven yards or three hundred and twenty-one feet : This vault is seven feet high and six wide, had all the way down broad steps cut in the rock, the which are at this time almost entirely worn out in the middle, but may plainly be perceived at the sides ; there are all the way down till within fifteen or sixteen yards of the bottom, openings in the side of the rock to convey light into this passage, and to serve the soldiers to shoot their arrows through upon the enemy, in the upper part are cut out several regular port-holes, which shew, that during the civil war, cannons were planted there, which commanded all the meadows, there are besides in this part of the vault observable, many holes or excavations about a foot in height, breadth, and depth, these seem to have been made to lodge cannon-balls in, to prevent their rolling to the bottom.”

The above account is given here from its correctness of description ; but the lapse of time since Deering viewed this vault has nearly obliterated every appearance of the steps. The bottom entrance, which faces the south-east, has been bricked up long since, to prevent boys from coming that way into the gardens at the foot of the rock. The top entrance is nearly in the same direction as the bottom one, through a gate-way in the parapet wall. I am fully of opinion with those who consider this vault to have been made before the Norman invasion, as a secret passage to the old tower, whereby it might be relieved, in case of a pressing siege.

The reason why this vault took the name of *Mortimer's-hole* is as follows :—In the minority of Edward the Third, after the murder of his deposed father, his mother, Isabella, lived in an adulterous intercourse and joint usurpation with Mortimer, Earl of March, at the castle ; the apparent impregnability of which, and its enviable situation, exhibiting a show of safety as well as delight. The young king, however, being weary of his political trammels, and ashamed of his mother's conduct, determined, in council with some of his friends, to seize Mortimer, and thus free himself and the nation from so galling a yoke. But how was the question ? the gates being locked at sun-set, and the keys taken to the queen, who always put them under her pillow. At length, William Eland, constable of the fortress, was brought over to the party, and engaged to introduce young Edward and his chosen band through a secret passage into the castle during the night, which was done accordingly—Mortimer was seized amidst the cries and prayers of the queen—was taken to Westminster, and there tried, condemned, and executed as a traitor ; and a parliament was held at Nottingham, that deprived the queen of her dowry, and granted her £1000 a year during life. Thus ended the royal amours and life of Mortimer ; and hence this vault, since celebrated, received its present name.

On the right hand, of the way from the castle lodge towards the steps which lead to the paved yard, is a green court, upon a part of which stood the ancient tower, the rest of it occupying part of the site of the present castle. To the west of the green court stood the pindage, and the dovecot, as mentioned in Geffry Knyveton's survey.

Some remains of the wall and its appendages, which incircled the old castle, are still standing ; particularly a bastion facing Gilliflower-hill, which, excepting the effects produced by the powerful operation of time, has sustained little injury. The main gate-way, the roof of which consists of a Gothic arch, supported by two ancient bastions, is still in good condition, and is near the top of



*THE CASTLE LODGE.*



Castle-gate. One of these bastions has been converted into a residence for the porter ; and, in 1807, some additions were made to it for the accommodation of his family. There is still the appearance of casements in these two bulwarks, so constructed, that the guards could intersect, with their arrows, every approach to the gate. Formerly a deep dry ditch surrounded the castle, excepting where the high rock rendered it unnecessary, the last vestige of which was filled up in the above-mentioned year, and the road made to pass lengthwise over it, which leads from the top of Hounds'-gate into the park. This was done in consequence of the old road being sold, along with Standard-hill-close, over which plot of ground it formerly passed. As to the fabulous story about James Scot's Hole, which is said to lead underground, from the castle to Lenton, it shall be passed by as unworthy of farther notice.

### GOVERNORS OF THE OLD CASTLE.

*William Peverel*, natural son to William the Conqueror ; by the daughter of a Norman tanner, and who was afterwards given in marriage to one Ralph Peverel, had the command of the castle given him by his reputed father, along with the Lordship of Nottingham, and 161 other Lordships in different parts of England ; but, at the battle of Lincoln he was taken prisoner by the Empress Maud, along with King Stephen, while fighting by the side of that monarch, in the 7th year of his reign. *Ralph Pagnel*, one of Maud's captains, succeeded him ; but when the tide of fortune turned again in favor of Stephen, and Peverel's enlargement had been procured, he, with a band of his trusty old soldiers, surprised the castle ; and afterwards commanded it to the day of his death. He was, according to Deering, the founder of Lenton Abbey.

*William Peverel*, grandson to the former, according to Camden, succeeded him in the command of the castle and in his titles and estates. But who, for an intrigue with the wife of the Earl of Chester, and complotting with her to poison her husband, was deprived of his possessions by Henry the Second in the first year of that monarch's reign ; and the command of the castle was given to the said Earl of Chester. Peverel turned hypocrite, and put on the habit of a monk in Lenton Abbey, in order to expiate, in the public eye, the crimes of adultery and anticipated murder.

*Reginald de Lucy*, according to Deering, next held the castle, in behalf of young Henry, when in rebellion against his father and king, until it was taken from him by Robert, Earl of Ferrers and Derby, in favor of Henry the father. After the death of young Henry, which restored internal peace to the nation and to the breast of an over indulgent father, Henry the Second gave the command of the castle to *John Earl of Morton*, his fourth son ; which he held until deprived of it by William Longchamp, bishop of Ely, and chancellor and protector of the kingdom, under pretence that John was an enemy to his brother, Richard the First, when that monarch was carrying on his madheaded wars in Palestine, mis-called "holy wars." Longchamp, in the name of Richard, then gave the command of the castle to the Earl of *Pembroke* ; but the Earl of Morton, afterwards King John, wishing to obtain the crown in his brother's absence, found means to bribe the garrison, which was then commanded, under Pembroke, by Alan de Lee and Peter Rovancourt, and thereby gained the castle, the command of which he gave to *Roger Montbegon*, who sustained a siege in it against the bishop of Ely ; but on Richard's return to the kingdom he

made his peace with that monarch; on condition of giving up the castle and paying five hundred marks. It appears that Richard then committed it to the care of *Reginald de Clifton*, whom King John, in the 6th of his reign, commanded to deliver it up to *Robert de Veteriponte*, who was sheriff of the counties of Nottingham and Derby; and who it seems gave up the command of the castle to *Philip March*, who held it for John in his first war against the Barons; the latter obtaining possession of it as one of the conditions of their again receiving the king into the pale of their friendship; and in whose keeping it appears to have remained a considerable time; for we find it no more held by the crown till the 10th of Henry the Third, when *Ralph Fitznicholas* held it for that monarch. *Hugh Fitzralph*, also held the castle for this king, at which time he was sheriff of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire; as likewise did *William Bardolf*, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Lewes. In the 44th of this king's reign it was committed to the care of the great *Hugh de Spencer* by the Barons; and when peace was made between them and the king, the latter gave the command of it to his son *Edward*, who had previously been given up a hostage to the Barons as a pledge of his father's sincerity. When Edward came to the crown he first entrusted the castle to the command of *Robert Tibetot*, and then to *Reginald de Grey*, who was also sheriff of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

*John Segrave* (whose father was one of the Barons who took up arms at Nottingham against oppression in the reign of Henry the Third,) was in high repute with Edward the First and Edward the Second; he was made warden of the forests beyond Trent, and governor of Nottingham castle; and was taken prisoner in the service of the latter at the battle of Bannocksbourn. After Segrave, *Robert de Clifford*, a peer of parliament, was governor of our castle; and also *Piers Gavestone*, Earl of Cornwall, who was the wicked, the extravagant, and, at length, the unfortunate favorite of Edward the Second. *Richard de Grey*, of Codnor, was the last governor in the reign of Edward the Second; and William Eland was deputy under him, when Edward the Third seized Mortimer in the castle, and possibly was privy to the scheme. From this time to the 8th of Henry the Fourth, we only find *Stephen Rumbylowe* mentioned as governor of this castle; and, from the obscurity which attaches to his name, it is probable that he was deputy to some person of note. In that year we find *Richard Grey*, great-grandson to the before mentioned nobleman of that name from Codnor, constituted constable of Nottingham castle; and chief ranger of Sherwood forest during life. From the death of this nobleman to the 23d of Henry the Sixth is another chasm, when *Ralph Cromwell* obtained a grant from the crown, to himself and heirs, to be constable of this castle, and also the wardenship of the forest of Sherwood, and the parks of Beskwood and Clympston; who chose for his deputy one Geffery Knyveton, whom Deering takes to be Gualfrid Knyveton, who was mayor of Nottingham in 1447. Cromwell died without issue, in 1455, and in the 15th of Edward the Fourth, we find Richard Hastings, Esq. constituted deputy constable of the castle, and warden of the forests and chases north of Trent, in the absence of William Lord Hastings, to whom, it is probable, he was a younger brother. Sir John Byron, was knighted by Henry the Seventh in the first year of his reign; and the same year he was constituted constable of Nottingham castle, and steward and warden of the forest of Sherwood, and of Bilhagh, Birkland, Rumwood, Ouseland and Fulwood.

*Henry*, the Second Earl of Rutland, was constituted chief justice of the forest of Sherwood, constable of Nottingham castle, and warden of the east and middle marches in the 2d of Edward the Sixth. And, whether from the elasticity of his conscience in religious matters, or from his peculiar merit, we do not exactly find; but he was the bearer of distinctive honors through Edward's and Mary's reigns; and when Elizabeth came to the crown, she added to them by creating him a knight of the garter, by making him lord lieutenant of the counties of Nottingham and Rutland, and lord president of the council. John, the Fourth Earl of *Rutland*, was made constable of our castle and lord lieutenant of the county by Elizabeth; as was also *Roger*, his successor; and he was also made lord lieutenant of Lincolnshire by James the First. *Francis*, who succeeded his brother Roger in the earldom of Rutland, was made justice of the forests north of Trent by James; who also conferred upon him and his heirs the *property* of Nottingham castle, giving up all claim to it as a royal demense. He died without male issue in 1632; and his only daughter was mother to George Villiers, second Duke of Buckingham, who, after the restoration, claimed the castle in his mother's right, and sold it to William Cavendish, Marquis, and afterwards Duke of Newcastle; and by different marriages it passed from the Cavendishes to the Holleses, Pelhams, and the Clintons, to the latter of which it now belongs.

Deering, in a very ungentlemanly manner, and what is very reprehensible in him as a historian, omits to mention the celebrated Colonel Hutchinson in the list of governors of the castle. We shall have full occasion to speak of him in another place.

### THE PRESENT CASTLE.

Deering, in page 186, gives two dates for the laying of the foundation of this fabric; and this he has done, as was rather customary with him, by attending to old stories, rather than trouble himself about inquiring into facts. Without attending, however, to the tales of old *Jonathan Paramour*, we will give the date, from what appears the most correct account, which probably was taken from the book of the Duke's steward.

"An account of what Nottingham castle cost building, beginning February the 12th, 1680, and ending April 14th, 1683.

	£.	s.	d.
" His Grace the Duke of Newcastle paid with 500 <i>h</i> of wood - - - - -	4731	11	5
" And his Grace Henry Duke of Newcastle, October 16th, 1680 - - - - -	7259	6	7
" February 5th 1680. To Mr. Wright for cedar wood - - - - -	120	0	0
" To ditto for marble chimney pieces - - - - -	52	0	0
" To packing them - - - - -	3	13	4
" 12th, to ditto for a saw for the cedar - - - - -	1	10	0
" More paid from the 12th of February, 1680, to the 20th August, 1681 - - - - -	351	13	6
" More paid from the 20th of August, 1681, to the 12th of November - - - - -	552	14	5
" More paid from the 12th of November, 1681, to the 18th of February - - - - -	253	2	11
" From the 18th of February, 1682, to the 14th of April, 1683 - - - - -	677	5	7
	<u>£14002</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>9"</u>



This short account of the expenses of building the castle is given as it appears in Deering, being of little value only as it preserves certain dates, as connected with certain payments, which leave no doubt respecting the time when the fabric was erected.

The building is about 72 yards by 30 ; and the front presents a rustic appearance, intermingled with the majestic grandeur of the Corinthian order. A double flight of stone stairs, guarded with railings of the same material, lead up the front, over which is placed an equestrian statue of the founder, with his face towards the north. The reason which tradition assigns for the face being placed this way is, that the Duke might seem to be on his way for Clumber, an enchanting seat belonging to the family in the north of this county.\* In this case the founder's whim seems to have been almost prophetic ; *for the succeeding Dukes have almost always had their backs towards the castle.* The statue was cut out of one block of stone, which was brought from Castle Donington, in Leicestershire ; and it is to be wished that it had been larger, as the size of the *man* is very disproportionate to that of the *horse* ; in short it puts one in mind of one of our *lordling* officers mounted on a warlike steed. The statuary was one *Wilson*, whose name is no longer of any import, except as he was afterwards knighted at the instigation of an amorous Leicestershire widow lady of the name of *Putsey*, who made him her husband, and her wealth made him a spendthrift, and spoilt him as an artist, till he had spent her fortune ; when he collected the scattered remains of his former abilities, and returned to his trade. Upon the brow of the castle, just over the statue, the Duke's arms stand conspicuous, cut out of a block of stone ; but the hand of time has snatched the strawberry leaves from the ducal coronet, and is also making very free with the arms and supporters. Indeed, until 1808, the whole appearance of the building presented the picture of decay ; and robin-red-breasts and sparrows claimed pre-eminence among the inhabitants of this mighty fabric, originally designed as the seat of hospitality and glee. At that time the windows, &c. underwent a general repair, for the purpose of its being let in separate apartments. The yard used to be a place of resort for the people of this town to inhale the breezes which sweep the summit of the rock ; there being an arcade at the south end of the castle, under which they might take shelter during a shower ; but this amusement is now at an end, and his *portership* at the lodge grows a denial to those who wish to take a circumspective view of the place, except his temper be sweetened with a bribe.

### **BREWHOUSE-YARD.**

This place, situate at the foot of the castle rock, took its name from the malt being made and the liquor brewed in it with which the old castle was supplied. And it is conjectured, and that too with much probability, that the passage, called Mortimer's hole, was originally made for the purpose of having the liquor conveyed through it to the castle. The kiln, which was used for malting, is now lost in an icehouse belonging to Mr. Topott, confectioner, in Bridlesmith-gate.—This place was formerly within the jurisdiction of the castle, and there were no dwellings in it but what were

\* Though tradition may be right in the *reason*, it is not so in the *name*, for the noble mansion at Clumber was not built till 1770, till which time the family seat was at Houghton, in the same delightful neighbourhood.



necessary for carrying on the businesses of malting and brewing. But James the First converted it into a jurisdiction or constabulary of itself; and granted it to Francis Philips, gent. and Edward Ferres, mercer, both of London, by a deed bearing date 1621; since which time a few more houses have been built, wherein a considerable share of dying and trimming has been carried on. On that side next the rock are two public-houses, the first of which has a parlour cut in the rock, with a hole at the top for the admission of light; on which account it has obtained the name of *the star parlour*. The other public-house has a kitchen, two large chambers, and other conveniences cut in the rock. Dr. Thoroton says, this place was once an assylum for fanatics; but for what reason he said so does not appear; except in the intolerance of his disposition he chose to cast this sarcasm upon the place, in consequence of a few dissenters holding communion therein, called the *family of love*, of whom more hereafter.

### ***THE CIRCUS, OR RIDING SCHOOL,***

Stands within the liberties of the castle; some part of the old circumambient wall having been removed to make way for its erection. It is a substantial brick building, 35 yards by 15; and the entrance into it is near the castle lodge. In the north end is a stone which exhibits the following inscription:—

THIS RIDING SCHOOL  
WAS ERECTED BY  
THE NOTTINGHAM TROOP  
OF YEOMANRY CAVALRY  
A. D. MDCCXCVIII.

Equestrian and vaulting exercises are sometimes exhibited here, by troops of strollers, that occasionally visit the town. This is a public nuisance which has long and justly been complained of, and over which the town magistrates have no control, because the building is without their jurisdiction. These strolling swindlers generally find the means of putting off a large quantity of base silver, and the folly of the people enables them to take a larger quantity of good money away.

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## CHAPTER III.

### THE TOWN WALL, PRISONS, HALLS, AND BUILDINGS IN GENERAL.

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#### TOWN WALL.

Leland says, "The town has been meatly welle wallid with stone, and hath had dyvers gates—" much of the waul is now down and the gates, saving two or three." We are told by various authors that Edward the Elder built this wall, about the year 910; and the reason for it may be found in the troubled state of his reign, as well from his cousin Ethelwald's pretensions to the crown, as from the continual incursions of the Danes, many of whom had settled in the interior of the kingdom. Ethelfleda, sister to Edward, and wife of Ethelbert, Duke and governor of Mercia, having been reduced to extremities in travail of her first child, she refused ever after to have any connubial intercourse with her husband; not from superstitious fantasy, nor from feminine weakness; but from a conviction, as far as respected herself, that the pains of child-birth overbalanced the pleasures of the nuptial embrace; she therefore determined to lay aside the distaff, and to take up the sword in her own and her brother's defence, who, at that time, was much straitened by his enemies; and her *dukedom* too being in great confusion, in consequence of the death of her husband, which happened soon after their separation.\* To secure Nottingham against the ravages of her foes, which her brother Edward, had committed to her care, he erected this circumferating wall. In a prescript from Henry the third, dated October the 18th, 1256, that monarch commanded *his bailiffs and burgesses of Nottingham, without delay, to make a postern in the wall of the said town, near the castle towards Lenton, of such a breadth and height that two armed horsemen, carrying two lances on their shoulders, might go in and out, where William, Archbishop of York, had appointed it, who made the king understand that it was expedient for him, his heirs, and the town.* Deering concludes this postern to have stood where the reservoir now is at the back of the General Hospital, some remains of which were visible in his day. "From this postern," says Deering, "a bridge went over the town ditch, which place,

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\* Fabian says in his Chronicle, "That when she had ones assayed the woe and sorrow that women feeble and suffer in bearing of a child, she hated the embrasinge of her husband ever after, and toke witness of God and sayde, that it was not convenient or semeli to a king's daughter to use such fleshlie likeinge whereof such sorrow should ensue."

Dont be alarmed, fair reader, at the name of the *distaff*; for dutchesses and queens thought it an honor to ply at it in days of yore. The beautiful and enchanting lines which Homer wove from the yarn spun by Penelope, when her lord and sovereign was in captivity, have rendered her name and virtues immortal. And there is now, at the Duke of Devonshire's mansion in Derbyshire, a set of bed curtains, the yarn of which was spun by the lady of that Duke who shone so conspicuous at the revolution in 1688. Thus the Dutchess was spinning yarn for bed curtains, while the Duke was helping to weave the Bill of Rights.

“ though now filled up, as well as the whole ditch between this and Chapel-bar, bears, to this day, the name of *Boston-bridge*, a corruption of Postern-bridge.” “ The ditch itself is now converted into kitchen gardens, and is called at this time,\* *Butt-dike*, from some neighbouring butts, where the townsmen used to exercise themselves in shooting at a mark with bows and arrows.” In Butt-dyke, (now Park-row,) which was let by the Corporation as building land, on perpetual leases about the year 1800, several portions of the old wall were found by the workmen, when digging for the foundations of the houses. From this place the wall ran on by Chapel-bar, then slanting to the left across Parliament-street, and making an angle up Roper’s-close, it took an oblique direction through Pannier’s-close; thence to the house of correction, and down St. John’s-street and Coalpit-lane; then along Carter-gate, and the north side of Fisher-gate to the Hollow-stone, the east side of which it traversed, and then up Short-hill, and down the High, Middle, and Low-pavements to the end of Lister-gate; thence up the south side of Castle-gate, and, taking in St. Nicholas’s church, it passed on to Brewhouse-yard and joined the castle rock.

Deering says, that the wall ran down Brightmore-hill (now Charity-school-hill) and formed an acute angle at the bottom, then turning up Mont-lane (now Middle-hill,) in a kind of curve to the Weekday-cross; and then down the Pavements. That the angle, formed between these two narrow streets, was an appurtenance, or out-work to the fortifications formed by the wall, there seems no sort of doubt; for that part of the wall, which forms the acute angle that points towards the end of Narrow-marsh, bears evident marks, to this day, of having belonged to the erection we are speaking of; though it appears to have been built, as a military post, at a latter period than that at which the main wall was erected.

Deering informs us, that, within ten years of the time at which he wrote, one of the old posterns, or little gates, was standing at the top of Drury-hill, facing Bridlesmith-gate. That the *gate* was taken down long before that time I have no doubt; and doubt not also, that it was the *arch* of the postern which was remaining in our author’s time, an engraving of which I have seen. In an open

\* There is no doubt of this place having taken its name from the practice of shooting at *butts*, with long bows and arrows, in ancient times: a *butt*, being a board, on which was painted concentric circles, and which was erected on a *dike*, or mound, to receive the arrows from the bow. There is reason to believe, that a plot of ground was devoted to the practice of archery in almost every township in the kingdom; as to the excellent marksmen in this art were to be attributed several important victories gained by our forefathers. The use of the cross-bow was very ancient in Europe; and to it William the Norman owed the victory of Hastings, when he wrested the crown of England from the less fortunate Harold; but the long bow probably was unknown in these parts till the return of Edward the First from a crusade in the holy land, where, from his conflicts with the Saracens, he became sensibly impressed with its superior powers. From this period till the reign of Charles the First, edicts were frequently issued by the crown, and acts passed by parliament to enforce and regulate the exercise of the long bow: every male, above seven years old, except disabled by age or infirmity, was subject to penalties if he did not appear at regular times, with a bow the length of his own height, and two arrows at least, to try his skill and strength before the butts; and, by a statute of Henry the Eighth, every one above the age of twenty-four, was to stand eleven score yards from the butt. The general length of the arrows may be gathered from the following verse in *Chevy Chase*:—

“ He had a bow bent in his hand,

“ Made of a trusty tree:

“ An arrow of a *cloth-yard* long,

“ Up to the head drew he.”

Arrow making was a distinct and popular business in this county as late as the year 1724.

space under Mr. Heald's tap-room at the Golden-fleece, (which was a supporter to the eastern side of this postern arch, and which faces Bridlesmith-gate,) is standing a part of the old town wall, the dimensions of which are as follow:—in height 102 inches; thickness 38 inches; and six yards in length. In this part of the old wall is a gateway, the height of which, in the centre of the arch, is 92 inches, and 62 inches wide. Deering considers this to have been the entrance into a guard-house; but I rather consider it to have been a sally-port; and am borne out in this conjecture, from the top of its arch being nearly on a level with the street; and from the opinion given of a sally-port by a writer in the English Encyclopedia, who says, "a postern, or sally-port" "in fortifications, is an underground passage, leading from the inner to the outer works, designed" "for the conveyance of soldiers or artillery." This, very probably, may have been one of the ancient posterns; and that near to it, which Deering calls a postern, may have been a small gate for the accommodation of foot passengers, and a regular communication between the suburbs and the town. From the particular orders given for the erection of the postern gate towards Lenton, we have a right to conclude, that it was not constructed in the usual way; and, as such, it ought not to be a criterion by which to form our judgment respecting the postern at the top of Drury-hill. There was likewise another wall of a more modern date than the one we have been speaking of; it ran from Chapel-bar down Parliament-street to Coalpit-lane; and the foundations of some of the houses in Parliament-row rest upon part of its remains. It is conjectured, that this wall was built by Henry the Second, in consequence of part of the old wall being destroyed, along with a portion of the town, by Ralph Pagnel, in the interest of the Empress Maud, when she and Stephen were contending for the crown. Have we not a right to conclude, that much building was destroyed at this time on the north side of the town; or why this contraction in the circle of the wall?

### ***THE GUILDHALL AND THE TOWN GAOL,***

Stand on the south side of the Middle-pavement, concerning which, Richardson and Evans relate the following circumstance:—

In the reign of George the First, while Judge Powis, was delivering his charge to the Grand Jury, a beam gave way, in consequence of which the whole assembly sought safety in flight, and among the rest the sheriff, who called out, *will no one take care of the Judge?* he being old and infirm, and scarcely able to walk. He, however, arriving at the door in safety, stopped and denounced a fine upon the town for not keeping the assize hall in repair; which, by an order from the King's bench was put in execution; and the hall was shortly after *rebuilt* at the expense of the town.—That this statement is, either wholly, or in part, founded in error, seems impossible to doubt; for Deering informs us, in express terms, that, till the year 1744, which was seventeen years after the death of George the First, "this hall was a low wooden building, wearing the" "badge of antiquity;" at which time he further says, "the whole front was pulled down, and faced" "with a modern one, the top of which rests upon Tuscan columns, the roof of which is probably" "near 700 years old, and is framed not unlike that of Westminster, is perfectly sound, and therefore" "preserved." Now, as Deering lived in the town at the time he mentions, and was then writing, or collecting materials for, his "Antiquities," it would be the height of infidelity to dispute his

testimony on the occasion. Throsby of Leicester commits a still more inexcusable error, where he says, that this hall was rebuilt in 1791, as he proves thereby, that he paid no attention to what he wrote. The prison, which adjoins the hall, it is true, was rebuilt this year; and the hall received some repairs.

This appears to be the prison mentioned in the confirming charter, granted by Edward the Third, which says, "The Burgesses of Nottingham, time out of mind, unto the time of King John's charter, and since, had a gaol in the town for the custody of such as were taken therein belonging to the town." The present hall is a substantial brick building, ornamented with stone; the northern front being supported by ten wooden pillars; a shelter thereby being formed for passengers during a shower. A dial adorns the front, the principal parts of the clock to which it is attached were made in 1808; there being a dial also in the hall, facing the Judge's bench. The western front is guarded by iron palisades, through which we pass by means of a gate, and mount a flight of stone steps, before we can enter the hall.\* Here the assizes and sessions are held; and likewise are held the mayor's and sheriffs' court once a fortnight, and the sheriffs' county court, once a month. Here too the gentlemen present themselves to their brother burgesses, when they are desirous of becoming candidates for the honor of filling up vacancies in the corporate body; and here such elections are carried on. To the east side of the hall a handsome room is appended, called *the council chamber*, where the magistrates meet to do that part of the town's business which belongs to their department; and in which the members of the corporation meet to transact the affairs of their body: a door leads out of the hall into this room, (where hangs the portrait of Sir Thomas White, the great benefactor to the town,) and another leads out of it to the prison and the keeper's apartments. In the council chamber are deposited the corporate records, secured in a chest with three locks; the keys whereof are kept by the mayor, the junior alderman, and the senior coroner. During a number of years the soldiers stationed in the town had their guard-house under this hall; but, in 1805, the room was converted into a kitchen for the gaoler. And, some time prior to the year 1642, a chamber over the old hall, was used as a *depôt* by the *trained bands* of the county; in which year the Earl of Newcastle and Sir John Digby, endeavoured to seize the stores for the king's use; but were prevented by Mr. John, afterwards colonel Hutchinson, at the head of the townspeople.

For reasons, which will appear hereafter, I have no doubt but a hall and prison were erected upon this site by king John; which will justify Deering's conjecture of the roof being near seven hundred years old.

### SHIRE HALL AND PRISON.

It was customary long after the conquest, for one gentleman to be sheriff of two counties, which was the case with those of Nottingham and Derby up to the 10th of Elizabeth, 1568; and under the old hall (which stood where now stands the east end of the present hall,) was the felon prison for the two counties, till the 23d of Henry the Eighth, 1532, when an act was passed for erecting

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\* The length of the building, from the bottom of the steps, comprehending the hall, council chamber, and prison, is 104 feet. The inside of the hall is 39 feet 4 inches, by 30 feet.

gaols in different parts of the kingdom ; and in which Derby is expressly mentioned. Here too the assizes for Derby were held, in conjunction with those of Nottingham, until this time, with the exception of a short interval in the reign of Henry the Third, and another in that of Edward the Third.

Thoroton says, “ whether this be the prison which King John erected at Nottingham, about the “ third year of his reign, or that which is lower down in the street, under the town-hall, where the “ assizes, &c. for that *county* are kept, I cannot determine.”\* Deering concludes this to be the prison which King John erected ; while, in the same page he furnishes proof of the contrary, by giving an extract from the charter of confirmation of Edward the Third, in these words :— “ That the burgesses of Nottingham, time out of mind, unto the time of King John’s charter, “ and since, had a gaol in the town for the custody of such as were taken therein, as belonging “ to the town.” Now, if this charter had meant the county prison, it would not have distinctly mentioned a prison for the use of the burgesses of Nottingham ; because this prison was the receptacle for the felons of the counties of Nottingham and Derby till the time of Henry the Eighth, which, very probably, was the cause why Henry the Sixth, separated it from the county of the town. And, as King John was Earl of Nottingham, and had received many helps from it in his rebellion against his brother Richard, and in his successful usurpation over his nephew Arthur, whom he basely murdered, it is likely that he built the town prison (along with other favors which he conferred on the inhabitants, and which will be mentioned in their proper places) as a recompense for past services. To give an importance to the town, independent of the county, by enabling the inhabitants thereof to become the guardians of their own safety, in the rightful security of their own misguided and criminal brethren, would secure to himself their future support, in time of need. Hence I conclude, that the town prison was erected by King John, about the year 1202 ; and that the one under consideration had been erected long before, as the common prison for the *towns* as well as the counties of Nottingham and Derby ; probably about the time that Alfred divided the country into shires and hundreds, and regulated its internal polity, about the latter end of the ninth century.

Deering found the remains of an old table in the late hall containing an inscription, partly defaced, which presented the following :—“ These whose names and arms are here set down, being “ then in the commission of the peace for this county, were contributors to the building of this “ hall, Anno Dom. 1618. Lord Cavendish, Lord Stanhope, Sir Percival Willoughby, Knt. Sir “ John Byron, Sir George Parkyns, Knt. Sir George Lascelles, Knt. Sir Gervas Clifton, Bart. Sir “ Francis Leek, Knt. Sir Thomas Hutchinson, Knt. Folk Cartwright, Esq. Hardolph Wastnes, “ Esq. Robert Pierpoint, Esq. Robert Sutton, Esq. John Wood, Esq. Robert Williamson, Esq. “ Lancelot Rolleston, Esq. Gervase Trevery, Esq.” In the same page our author informs us, that John Boun, sergeant at law,† some years before the civil wars, gave a house which adjoined the western extremity of the hall, and also adjoining to a house belonging to Sir Thomas Hutchinson,

\* Our author uses the word *county*, from this town being a county of itself.

† By referring to Thoroton, we find that this was Gilbert Boun, the son of John, that made a present of this house to the county.

to the county for the greater convenience of trying *nisi prius* causes; which would be shortly after the time that the inscribed table was made. Hence it is fair to conclude, that our author took the word *repairing* for that of *building* in the inscription, which he says was partly obliterated, for if the hall had been recently built, it would not have stood in need of an enlargement at that time. The patched state, too, of the walls, which were originally built of stone, and the barn-like appearance of the hall, in 1750, with the gable end towards the street, which was used as a hayloft, altogether bespeak its erection much earlier than 1618. The gentlemen, whose names were found upon the table, probably were subscribers to the converting of sergeant Boun's house into a *nisi prius* court; which conclusion will solve the enigma. Notwithstanding this addition to the hall, it was still inadequate, in point of size, to the business done in it; we therefore find Julius Hutchinson, Esq. shortly after the restoration, selling the house which formerly belonged to Sir Thomas Hutchinson, and which is named above, for the purpose of making a further addition to the hall.

After this twofold addition to the hall, it was still in so wretched a state in Deering's time, as to cause him to speak of it in a very contemptible style; and he informs us that one of the judges laid a fine of two thousand pounds on the county, because the hall was not a fit place wherein to transact assize business. Here is the foundation of the tale told by Richardson and Evans: and thus it appears to have been the *county*, and not the *town*, that had been so remiss in providing a proper place for the accommodation of the king's representative.\*

The present hall, which has a conspicuous appearance on the south side of the High pavement, and which occupies the site of the old one, including the site also of the two houses above mentioned, was built in the year 1770. It is a strong, heavy looking stone building; the front being divided from the street by a range of iron railing. You pass through the gates, which form a part of this fence, and then proceed up a flight of steps to the grand entrance, on the pediment over which are engraved the *Fasces* and *Pileus*, emblematic of this being the place for the administration of public justice. The mind can contemplate this building, without being disgusted with the appearance of heavy chains, which disgrace the fronts of many other buildings of a like description. On entering you find yourself in a large area; and on the east is the court where the crown business is done; and on the west is that where *nisi prius* causes are tried. In each court there is a gallery, with the use of which the high sheriff accommodates his friends; and on the opposite side is one from which the grand jury present their bills. Had the architect intended to contrive the interior of this structure, to *prevent* the audience from hearing the pleadings, he could not have

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\* Some time after the above was prepared for the press, a very scarce book, written by Sir Thomas Parkyns, Bart. of Bunny, fell in my hands. It was printed in 1724, and is called "Queries and Reasons against erecting a county hall in Nottingham market-place." He says the hall floor fell through at the assizes the previous year, which caused a fine of £2000 to be laid on the county. In consequence the magistrates met at Rufford on the 24th April, 1724, and signed an order for joining the Corporation in the expense of erecting a hall in the market-place, for the joint use of the town and county. Fortunately this plan was not carried into execution. This date corresponds with that at which the exchange hall was erected; and no doubt this is the hall which was intended for the joint use of the town and county.

succeeded better; for the lengthened-out vibration of the sound, with its responding echoes, remind you of Babel's confusion of tongues.\*

Facing the grand entrance is the council chamber, on each side of the door of which are to be seen an old flag, a flag-staff, and kettle drum; and over the door is an inscription in Latin, written by Deering, relative to the services performed by the Duke of Kingston's light horse at the battle of Culloden, which was fought on the 17th April, 1746; to which regiment the flags, &c. belonged. In this chamber the county magistrates meet to transact public business. At the west end of the room hang the full length portraits of their present majesties, George the Third and Queen Charlotte, in elegant gilt frames; and at the bottom of each is inscribed in brass these words "The gift of the Honorable Charles Herbet Pierrepont, 1805." In this hall too, the knights of the shire are elected. Behind the hall, and facing a street called Narrow-marsh, are the prisons for debtors and felons, where the ponderous walls rise in awful succession four stories high. The debtors' yard, under which are the felons' cells, is a pleasant place, as far as a prison can merit that appellation.

In this prison two sisters, whose names, in what *they* called a state of wedlock, were *Rowe* and *Bush*, suffered twelve years' imprisonment, on a point of conscience. They belonged to a religious sect that sprung up about thirty years ago at Calyerton, a village seven miles hence. Their tenets are similar to those of the quakers, except their keeping a regular preacher; and, of course, they hold the marriage ceremony, as performed in the established church, as inimical to their faith; and therefore marry their own way.† Mrs. Bush, soon after her marriage, according to the rites of the sect, "found herself in that situation in which women wish to be who love their lords;" and the overseer of the parish determined to make her feel the exercise of his authority; he accordingly took her to a magistrate to compel her to father her child—she declared herself a married woman; and, as such, refused obedience. She was then driven knee-deep in snow to Southwell house of correction, where, under the care of *keeper Adams*, a man whose cruelty and avarice went hand-in-hand, she lay-in, in a room which had an unglazed window, and through which the snow blew in flakes upon her bed of straw. She was liberated from this dreary situation, but soon after received a citation from the spiritual court, to which she paid no attention. This contempt brought upon her the full vengeance of the spiritual thunder. She was brought to this gaol, and to every parliamentary, and other efforts which were made to obtain her's and her sister's liberation, this answer was invariably made—they must be married in the Church of England, or they must father their children, (for they had several in the gaol); with which conditions they as invariably refused to comply. Thus these two women sacrificed to conscience that liberty which is so highly valued by all mankind. The unconquerable disposition of their

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\* The front of the hall, including the public entrance into the prison at the east end, and a private one at the west end, extends 117 feet. The old hall was 27 and a half feet in front, and sergeant Bonn's house was 40 feet; consequently the house bought of Julius Hutchinson was 49 feet and a half

† In the account of Mrs. Bush's sufferings, the reader will see those of Mrs. Rowe also; except that the latter was not confined in Southwell House of Correction; and which account I had from the women themselves.



minds, and the unrelenting severity of the ecclesiastical court, seemed to leave to death their enlargement; which would have stamped eternal odium on the character of the then, metropolitan of the diocese of York: this he probably foresaw; and therefore connived at their liberation, which took place under the following circumstances:—In the year 1798, when the prison wall, facing Narrow-marsh, was rebuilding, and new cells for the felons were preparing, the prison door was purposely set open; a significant hint was given them, of which they took advantage; and the next day the gaoler gave up their prison utensils, and received his fees. Thus ended the most extraordinary imprisonment which has disgraced the British annals since the revolution in 1688.\* Although it is impossible not to sympathize with these objects of spiritual vengeance, in the sufferings they endured; yet we must condemn the prejudice which gave those sufferings birth. Often has the writer of these pages heard these women sigh for liberty; and, with the same breath, glory in the persecution they underwent; as though they expected their heroism to be the title page to eternal fame. But how vain is that heroism which brings nothing but trouble in its train, and which holds up bad example as a mirror to public view!

Of all the moral and political institutions, which have resulted from human ingenuity, not one has tended so much to soften down the ferocity of man, and to fit him for polished life, as has that of marriage, when regulated by law. Were the marriage laws to be dispensed with, you would soon see the sons of dissipation and debauchery chasing every tender object that would administer to their desires; while those unhappy females, on whom they had satiated their lust, would, along with their children, become objects of derision to the debauchee, of commiseration to the reflecting and humane part of mankind, and logs upon the wheels of society at large. The odium, which attaches itself to the character of the libertine, would gradually wear away; the floodgates of immorality would be cast open; and he would be considered the most meritorious, who was the most successful in sacrificing virtue to his impure desires. Various attempts have been made, at different periods of time, to dispense with marriage rites as a religious ceremony, and to legitimize the offspring of fortuitous embrace; but, necessity has always suppressed the delusion, and has proved that mere theoretic philosophers are unfit to legislate for the general happiness of mankind.

### ***THE HOUSE OF CORRECTION, OR ST. JOHN'S PRISON,***

Stands in the angle between the south end of Glasshouse-lane and the west end of St. John's-street, facing the north end of Broad-lane. The house, or convent of the hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem stood on the site of this erection, some remains of which form part of the northern wall at the present time. The hospitallers also held considerable estates in this town, which were taken from them by Henry the Eighth, and given to the Corporation by Edward the Sixth, to enable them to keep the Trent-bridges in repair: the convent they converted into its present use. An additional wing was added in 1806 and 7, at the expense of the town. It is said that the convent was in being so early as 1215.

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\* Mrs. Bush buried her husband some time after, and has since married again the same way; as have many others of the same profession, without being molested by the civil or ecclesiastical authorities.

## THE EXCHANGE HALL,

Or as some call it, "The New Change," was began to be built in 1724, in the mayoralty of Marmaduke Pennel, who was also the architect. It is a handsome brick building, the front being 123 feet long, and supported by ten stone and four brick pillars. Behind the pillars is a handsome piazza, about four paces wide, which is graced with a variety of tradesmen's shops. The erecting of this fabric cost the Corporation about £2400. In the centre of the front is one large niche, and two smaller ones beneath it, which were originally designed to contain the statues of George the First, and the Prince and Princess of Wales; but which design never was carried into execution. Above the niches is a clock\*, accompanied with a bell, which, independent of giving the hour, is used as an alarm bell†, whenever the Magistrates see it necessary to call the *posse comitatus* to their aid. On the top of the building stands the figure of *Astrea*, the Goddess of Justice, exhibiting to the market-people her sword and her scales.

Near the centre of the front is a pair of folding doors, through which you pass, by a flight of stairs, which leads into what is called "The Long Room," which goes over the dark shambles. Here the representatives for the town are elected; except the candidates agree to have a booth. Here the *dry* and *liquid* measures are annually tried by the standard ones belonging to the Corporation. Here the assizes and sessions would be held, if the Guildhall should be unfit for those purposes; and here the Mayor and Sheriffs used to give their annual feasts; which are now chiefly held in what is called "The Hall," a large and commodious room, the entrance into which is opposite the other, a few steps higher from the first landing. It is sometimes used as an assembly room, for which purpose an orchestra has been erected on the north side, to which there is a communication with the adjoining public-house. Here the candidates for representing the town in parliament are nominated. Here the members of the Corporation, robe themselves preparative to their proceeding through the fairs to make proclamation; and, here, from one of the front windows, which face the Market-place, are all proclamations first given out. On the north side of

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\* This clock was made by one Woolley, of Cadnor, in the county of Derby, who was one of those eccentric characters which should be handed to posterity, as a proof that a man's possessing *wealth* without *mind*, is like a swine clad in silk. When young he was partial to shooting; but being detected at his sport upon the estate of the depraved William Andrew Horne, Esq. of Butterley, who was executed on the 11th December, 1759, at Nottingham, for the murder of a child, and compelled by him to pay the penalty, he made a vow never to cease from labor, except when nature compelled him, till he had obtained sufficient property to justify him in following his favorite sport, without dreading the frowns of his haughty neighbour. He accordingly fell to work, and continued at it till he was weary, when he rested, and to it again, a plan which he pursued without any regard to night and day. He denied himself the use of an ordinary bed, and of every other comfort, as well as necessary, except of the meanest kind. And when he had acquired property to qualify him to carry a gun, he had lost all relish for the sport; and he continued to labour at clock-making, except when he found an opportunity of trafficking in land, till he had amassed a very considerable fortune, which he bequeathed to one of his relations. I believe he died sometime about 1770. One more anecdote will give his character in full:—A person came one Sunday to pay him for a clock, who, after having paid the money was invited by Woolley to stay dinner; when, to which invitation he had assented, his host said, "Well then I will boil a whole penny-loaf; otherwise I should have boiled only half of one," which he did over a cow-dung fire; and this constituted the whole of the fare.

† This bell was originally cast for a Chapel of Ease, at Gunthorpe; but the latter falling to decay, one Loach, a rope-maker, stole the bell, and buried it in his garden; but, the theft being discovered, he fled to avoid the vengeance of the law. And when the Messrs. Lambert, of this town, built a cotton mill at Lowdham, they bought the bell for the use of the mill; and when they failed in 1807, it was bought by the Corporation of this town, and applied to its present use. The old bell was cast at a very early period; and, the inscription on it was, "When Gabriel blows his horn, the time to sell your corn then is."

the dark shambles, which, when in a fitted-up state, consist of seventeen shops, are the light ones ; which consist of twenty-seven shops ; and over them, till the year 1747, was the *spice chamber*, so called from people standing near it to sell grocery goods, who used to come from Mansfield, Loughborough, &c. before the spirit of trading adventure in this town rendered such itinerant dealers unnecessary.\* The cross shambles, which lead from the top of Shoe-booths to the light ones, contain ten stalls. Between the top of the light shambles, and a passage which leads from Smithy-row, is a space which used to be called *Dunkirk*, by way of reproach : probably from *dun*, which signifies dark, or gloomy ; and, if we may be allowed the conjecture, it is probable that *kirk* has been added in consequence of the resident Scots meeting near the place for the purposes of religious worship. This, however, is all conjecture ; and the reader may pass it by with a smile, or give it a serious thought. This place used to be occupied with butchers' stalls ; and, if any person had bought an inferior piece of meat, his neighbour would jocosely observe, " what ! " you have been to Dunkirk !" The place is still used for the same purpose ; but is perfectly commodious respecting light. Some few butchers' stalls are found above this place, in an entry which leads direct from the top of the light shambles into High-street.

### MARKET-PLACE.

When the traveller enters this town by way of Chapel-bar, he is highly charmed with a view of the finest market-place in England, comprehending an area of four acres and twenty-six perches. Here are held all the fairs and markets ; the former of which are, Plough-day fair, Good-Friday fair, March (7) fair, May (7) fair, and the great one held on the 2d October, commonly called " Goose fair." We have three regular market-days, viz. Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday ; the latter being the principal one. The fact is however, that there are stalls out every day in the year, when the weather will permit, except Sundays, therefore the market may be considered as being perpetual. Until about the year 1711, the market-place was divided lengthwise by a wall breast high, which was taken down at that time, and other improvements were made. On the north side of the wall was the market for grain and meal, as well as for the wares of clothiers, milliners, hardwaremen, turners, gardeners, &c. and on the south side between the wall and a long hanging bank, the horse market was held : the place not being paved occasioned it to be called *the sands*. At the east end of this division, joiners' and coopers' articles were sold, as well as unwrought timber, hence *Timber-hill*. At the west end, between the horse market and Friar-row, which comprehended the space between Wheeler-gate and St. James's-street, was the market for horned cattle, sheep, and swine ; hence Friar-row received the name of *Beastmarket-hill*.

At the time the wall was removed, the market-place was paved, and two ancient crosses were taken down ; one called the butter-cross, stood facing the exchange, and consisted of six pillars, with a tiled roof, and four rows of steps encircled the base ; round this the butter-market was held. The other, called the malt-cross, stood in the centre between Sheep-lane and St. James's-street, and consisted of one column, surrounded at its base with ten rows of steps. On this site the late

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\* Before the reformation, this spirit was purposely suppressed by the Monks of Lenton, who had the power of causing all shops to be shut up in this town during the fairs held at that village.

malt-cross was erected, which was raised four steps high, upon which stood six pillars, covered with a tiled roof, and the whole surmounted with six dials and a fane. About the time that these alterations were made in the market-place, the hen-cross and weekday-cross were erected: the former consisted of one large column supported by an hexangular base four steps high, and stood at the top of the Poultry; and the latter also consisted of one column, on an octangular base, four steps high; and it stood at the south end of Market-street, facing the guildhall, where now stands a public pump. Here the Wednesday market used to be held, till it was removed at the instigation of Alderman Worthington, in 1800. This has been attempted to be brought back; and the corporation passed a vote of hall for that purpose; but for want of money to remove some buildings, to render the place more commodious, the plan has been given up. Crosses which may be considered as relics of Popery were erected in public market-places for the purpose of exciting notions of devotion and equity in the breasts of those who might attend to sell their wares; but since the original intent, seems to have been lost, and the superstitious practices of Popery in this country are become nearly extinct, the corporation have done right in ordering the market-crosses to be removed. The Hen-cross was taken down in 1801; and the Malt-cross and Weekday-cross in 1804.\*

Two elm trees used to wave their umbrageous branches upon Timber-hill; and benches were placed around them, whereon people might sit either for pleasure or repose; but, prostitutes and idlers of all classes making them the nests of obscenity and filth, the tradesmen in the neighbourhood petitioned to have the trees taken down, which was done in 1791.†

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\* The extraordinary reverence with which public crosses were viewed in the days of popery, may be gathered from the following passage in "The Merry Devil of Edminton:—

"But there are crosses wife; here's one at Waltham,

"Another at the Abbey, and the third

"At Ceston; and 'tis ominous to pass

"Any of these without a *Pater-noster*."

† In the copy which I possess of Deering's Antiquities, is a marginal note in the hand-writing of Mr. Ayscough, printer of the work, in these words:—"Widow Mary Brown, relict of Edward Brown, barber, sells to William Noon, the Saracen's Head, in Carter-gate and Boot-lane, a house leading to the High Cross, dated 1706. Query—Where did the High Cross stand?" By examining Spede's map of the town, printed in 1610, we find the High Cross standing opposite to the bottom of Barker-gate, on the spot where now stands the Prince of Wales public-house; and the apparently odd connection of Carter-gate and Boot-lane is reconciled by the fact of Parliament-street then bearing the name of Carter-gate. The Saracen's Head used to be where the Milton's Head is now, at the south-east corner of the street; and not in the middle of the street, as it was some time ago. By this map too we find, that only two other Crosses were then standing in the town, viz. the Butter Cross and the Hen Cross; the Malt Cross not being then in existence. Just above the Butter Cross there stood an isolated building, which in the map has the appearance of a market-house. And, still a little further to the west, and about thirty yards from the top of Wheeler-gate, bearing a little up Timber-hill, stood the *Cuckstool*, as the machine was called, for punishing, by exposure, scolding wives and other tergiversants. The appearance of this machine in the map is that of a square inclosure, erected on a single post, about large enough to hold two persons; and two holes distinctly appear for two heads to be exposed through at one time. Blackstone, when speaking of common nuisances, says, "Lastly, a common *scold*, *communis rixatrix* (for our law-latin confines it to the feminine gender) is a public nuisance to her neighbourhood. For which offence she may be indicted; and, if convicted, shall be sentenced to be placed in a certain engine of correction called the trebucket, castigatory, or *cucking-stool*, which, in the Saxon language, signifies the *scolding-stool*; though now it is frequently corrupted into *ducking-stool*, because the residue of the judgment is, that when she is placed therein, she shall be plunged in the water for her punishment." The offenders, however, that were placed in the engine we are speaking of, if they had to make the *amende honorable* by *adult baptism*, must have had the water cast upon them; because there was no convenience for plunging them into it.

Another detached house stood in the market-place nearly opposite to the end of Greyhound-street.

## ***PRESENT ARRANGEMENT OF THE MARKET-PLACE.***

The north side, from Sheep-lane upwards, is occupied by gardeners ; and the other side, from Mount-street to St. James's-street, in the proper season, is occupied by the carts and waggon's of those who bring peas to market. A little lower down, and near the centre from side to side, the corn market is held : here the neighbouring farmers attend on a Saturday, between the hours of twelve and two, to make bargains and settle the price of grain ; not however, as formerly, with the bulk of their corn ; but with samples in their pockets. Between this place and Beastmarket-hill, where country carriers set their carts, are placed the folds for sheep and swine : the fruit market extends from Wheeler-gate to Peck-lane. North of the fruit market, stalls are ranged in a parallel line with it, except that a passage for carts is left between them and the exchange : then comes the butter market ; and next to that are two other rows of stalls, equal in length to the first, with a space between them for passengers. Between the last row of stalls and the Long-row is the market for baskets, chairs and coopers' ware ; east of which, to the exchange, is the fish market, and from Sheep-lane, to where the baskets, &c. are placed, is the market for earthenware, which is always most abundantly supplied. The beast market has been removed twice within a few years : it was first removed to an open space between the infirmary gates and the castle lodge ; and since into Parliament-street, where, since 1807, stallions are shewn, in consequence of a poor country woman having been killed by one in the Market-place. The fowl market is held in the Poultry, as the word imports, which extends from Peck-lane to Bridlesmith-gate. The whole length of Smithy-row stand two rows of country butchers' stalls ; though town butchers stand there too, for want of other conveniency. This arrangement must be considered as relating to Saturday ; as, on other market days, the market presents a medley appearance in front of the exchange.\* What is very ornamental, and gives the market-place an interesting appearance, is its being nearly surrounded with piazzas, which afford a shelter in wet weather, and a pleasant walk at other times.

About the year 1750, an attempt was made to establish a Monday market in St. Peter's-square, and, though it failed, it had the effect of causing the place to be paved, which till then was a mere sink. A cross was also raised upon four pillars, which was roofed, and afterwards walled in, to serve as a place wherein to keep the fire engines ; but in 1787, it was taken down, and a single column was raised in its place, which is railed round, and ornamented with four lamps. A sough under this column, is the common sewer of a considerable part of the town, other soughs emptying

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\* The market is regulated by the corporate servants, to whom every person, except a burgess of the town, who sets up a stall, or otherwise occupies a space by laying articles on the ground to sell, or by offering them to sale in a cart or waggon, pays one penny as a market toll ; a burgess, when he first sets up a stall pays a shilling to the mayoress's sergeant, and is then exempt from toll. And every country butcher, who erects a stall in the country shambles, pays a shilling a week ; and a town butcher, whether burgess or not, sixpence. It was anciently a custom for a butcher to bait a bull, before he was permitted to slaughter him in the town, for which purpose a ring was fixed in the market-place, and the mayoress found a rope, for which she received a shilling from each burgess when he took up his freedom ; this was called the mayoress's pin-money. This barbarous custom is now laid aside ; and a butcher is privileged to slaughter a bull, on condition of paying a shilling to the mayoress's sergeant, which is his perquisite.

themselves into it ; the principal of which is one, that comes from the exchange, down Peck-lane and Peter-gate, which was much enlarged in 1808, at an expense of £900, two-thirds of which being charged on St. Mary's parish.

### *ENGLISH AND FRENCH BOROUGHES.*

The Normans, soon after the conquest, divided the town into two boroughs, and if blood were shed by violence in the French borough, the offender was fined eighteen shillings to the king ; whereas, for a like offence in the English borough, the fine was but six shillings and fourpence. This badge of distinctive slavery continued until the time of Charles the First, when the blood then shed seems to have washed it away. These two boroughs were divided by a line running from the forest, and on Milton-street, Clumber-street, High-street, Bridlesmith-gate, Drury-hill, Middle-marsh, Turncalf-alley, and over the meadows to the Trent-road : the eastern division belonging to the English, and the western to the French. Till the year 1714, separate juries were empannelled ; and there were two town-halls : that belonging to the French stood on the site where now stands the house of Alderman Ashwell, at the north-west corner of Wheeler-gate.

### *BUILDINGS IN GENERAL.*

Notwithstanding the town had been considered a place of importance by the Saxon monarchs, particularly by Edward the Elder, it had received so much injury by the Danes, and, probably, by the Normans when they first settled here, that when Domesday-book was made, in the latter end of the eleventh century, it was reduced to a mere skeleton. Camden says in the reign of Edward the Confessor, according to Domesday-book, there were two mints in the town that yielded forty shillings. And in the extract which Deering has given from the same ancient record, are the following words :—" In the time of Edward the Confessor, Snottingham yielded rent, eighteen pounds. When Domesday was made, thirty pounds ; and ten pounds of the mint." This along with the importance attached to Nottingham as a military station, confirms the opinion of its being the capital of the kingdom of Mercia, and that a mint was established here at the time. And, though Egbert, in 823, united the nation into one great monarchy, prudence would direct him not to deprive the warlike sons of Nottingham of so distinctive a privilege, as that of possessing a mint, which of course, attached to them an importance in the eyes of their neighbours, and would be a plausible pretence for him to impose an additional tax upon them ; for ambition is more content to be deprived of part of its wealth than of a bauble, which gives it consequence in the eyes of the multitude. But William the Norman, who broke down the mounds of every thing which was sacred to fancy, patriotism, or antiquity, would act regardless of the people's tenacity ; and hence we hear no more after his time of the Nottingham mint.

From the time that Domesday-book was written, to the reign of Henry the Eighth, we have no account of the buildings of this town ; but, from its propinquity to the forest, the inhabitants would have little difficulty in procuring timber, of which the ribs of their houses were formed ; the spaces between being filled up with plaster, which they would obtain from Thrumpton and Newark, as well as from several places in Derbyshire, through the medium of the Trent. Leland

says, " Nottingham is both a large towne and welle builded for tymber and plaister."\* Timber and plaster, or mud, constituted the generality of building through the kingdom, till the latter end of Elizabeth's, or the beginning of James's reign; for though Alfred caused brick and stone buildings to be erected in 886, yet very few, except the king's palaces, the barons' mansions, and religious houses, were dignified with brick and stone till centuries afterwards.

Many of the streets in Nottingham are narrow, and formerly they were more so, from the second story of the houses projecting over the first, some few of which description are in being at the present day. Many of the houses of antiquity, as well in other towns as this, were remarkable for the small size of their windows; and also for the windows being placed at the opposite extremity to the fireplace: this, probably originated in the fantastical notion, that the darkness of a habitation caused righteousness to dwell therein, from its similarity to the gloomy seclusion of a monastic cell.†

In the 27th of Henry the Eighth, a statute was enacted, directing Nottingham, along with some other towns, to be re-edified, under the following forfeitures for neglect, viz. That, if the owners of the decayed houses did not re-edify them within three years, they should become the property of the lord of the manor—if he neglected the same length of time they should be seized by the corporate body, where such bodies existed; and if they should be equally neglectful, the same length of time, the houses were to revert to their original owners. As history does not furnish us with a clew to lead to the cause of such dilapidation of buildings as to justify such an edict, conjecture alone must be our guide. It could not be the result of the Earl of Gloucester's burning a part of the town, when engaged for the Empress Maud in 1140, as the lapse of time between the two dates was 386 years; and, as in that space several monarchs had resided here occasionally, who would have caused such marked devastation to have been obliterated. It is not impossible but the buildings might have received some damage in an unrecorded affray between the Yorkists and Lancastrians, which occasioned the ordinance in question, and which, from the state Leland found the town in a few years after its being issued, appears to have been immediately complied with. After all, might it not be a state trick played off by Henry, to excite a rivalry in internal improvement, and thereby give employment to numbers of vagabonds, who had lost their dependence on the monasteries about two years before, to keep them out of mischief; and likewise to give an impulse to trade, that the vassals, by having a prospect of gaining an independent livelihood, might be induced to quit the service of their lords, and thereby give the finishing blow to the feudal system, which had given so much trouble to his ancestors, and which, at that time, was groaning its own funeral knell?

The first tiled roof in this town was laid upon a house on the Long-row, in 1503, which belonged to a Mr. Staunton, and was once the Unicorn inn. And the first brick house was built in 1615, which was formerly the Green Dragon inn, on the Long-row; but has been rebuilt within a few years, and is now

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\* It was customary some ages ago for the people of this town to be very profuse in the use of timber; so much so that whole flights of stairs were made of solid blocks.

† It is a jocosé conclusion, but not the less true on that account, that as the reason of man began to expand, he enlarged the size of his windows.

known by the sign of the Derby Arms. The houses of the working class, at the present time, generally consist of a cellar, a room to dwell in, called the *houseplace*, a chamber, a shop over it to work in, a room in the roof, called a *cockloft*, and a small pantry; though in the manner of building there are many exceptions, some for the better and some for the worse; and they are generally composed of plaster floors for the upper rooms, lightly timbered with deal; brick walls, some four and a half, and some nine inches thick; and cast-iron grates for fireplaces, frequently with ovens and boilers of the same material.

Just after the death of Charles the First, Nottingham put on a new dress, and its countenance brightened up, as does that of a widow, when re-united in peace to her family, that had long been in strife through the contention of her sons. No sooner had the death of that monarch restored peace to the town, than the gentlemen vied with each other who should first rebuild and beautify their houses, or erect new ones: the small windows, with stone frames, fixed in semi-octangular projectments, gave way to large sashes, placed in square and graceful fronts; and mid day light succeeded to twilight gloom throughout the habitations.

Plumtree-house, on the north side of St. Mary's church-yard, stands conspicuous, for age as well as beauty, it having been built in the early part of the last century; and it promises fair to brave the blasts of many succeeding years.—King's-place, in Stoney-street, is an extensive and a handsome building, of a modern date: here several genteel families reside.—Short-hill and the south side of the High-pavement present a range of distinguished buildings; and the delightful view they command over the meadows has few equals in perspective.—The mansion of John Fellows, Esq. on the north side of the High-pavement, with its rural paddock in front, form an enchanting country seat in the heart of the town; the sight of which arrests the traveller as he passes along, and fills him with surprise, on beholding so charming a vista.—The ancient family mansion of the Sherwins, at the north-east end of Pilcher-gate, has long been admired for its commanding appearance: on its becoming the property of Mr. Bigsby, attorney-at-law, who is a gentleman of taste and literature, he, in 1807, expended a large sum of money in fitting it up anew in the inside, and in stuccoing it without. Near the last mentioned mansion, on the east side of St. Mary's-gate, stands a handsome stone house, which was built by the late lawyer Turner. The ground on which these two houses stand is the highest in the town, except a small plot of garden ground in front of them both. The houses of John Hancock and Mark Huish, Esqrs. northward, of the last mentioned house, are noble edifices. The house of Mr. Stoney, on the Middle-pavement, which joins the town prison, is celebrated for its excellent brick-work; and also for being the residence of the Judges at the assize. Just opposite to this stands the handsome structure belonging to Mr. Coldham, attorney-at-law and town clerk. It is a brick building stuccoed over, and then painted with what is called *Roman compo*,\* which gives it the exact resemblance of stone. The houses of Mrs. Gawthorn, the late Mr. Neville's, and that of Mr. Allsopp, on the south side of the

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\* *Compo* is an abbreviation of the Latin word *compono*, which implies, to compose, to beautify, to adorn. The attorney's office belonging to Mr. Allsopp, on the north side of the Low-pavement, which was built in 1808, was the first building in this town which was thus beautified: since that time many other buildings have assumed the same appearance.



Low-pavement, attract attention, particularly for the south view which they command over the meadows. As we pass up Castle-gate, the mansions of William and John Elliott, Esqs. forcibly arrest our attention, amidst many others equally well built. And at the top of this street stands an engaging edifice belonging to a lady of the name of Wright, wherein Count Tallard resided during part of his captivity, after he was taken by the Duke of Marlborough at the battle of Blenheim, which was fought the 2d of August, 1704. It is said that the Count much improved the art of gardening here; and that he taught the bakers how to make French rolls. The whole of Park-street consists of excellent buildings; amongst the rest the lofty edifice built by Thomas Maltby, Esq. banker, which he sold to the late Mr. Nunn, lace-manufacturer, stands the most conspicuous. Park-row, too, is one continued range of excellent buildings; as likewise is the whole of Standard-hill. Near one half of the north side of St. James's-street, from the west end downwards, consists of magnificent houses; so that to particularize one, would be doing injustice to the rest; except it be that which was erected by the late Cornelius Launder, Esq. who was equally well known for his wealth, for being a miser and a most excellent landlord: he would chaffer half an hour about the price of a cucumber or a platter in the market, while he let his tenants live at extremely easy rents.—Bromley-house, so called from the late Sir George Bromley, whose father erected it, stands on Angel-row, and is considered the best built house in the town. Pierrepont-house in Stoney-street is a noble mansion; and was erected by Francis Pierrepont, Esq. third son of the first Earl of Kingston. The houses occupied by publicans and shopkeepers form a medium between the other extremes; but, in stating this, the houses around the Market-place must be considered as exceptions; most of which would not lower the dignity of noblemen, as places of residence.

### THURLAND, OR CLARE HALL,

Belongs to the Duke of Newcastle: it presents a prison-like appearance; and stands opposite to the back gates which leads from the Black Moor's Head inn yard into Pelham-street; it being partly occupied by the keeper of that inn, for the conveniency of large dining parties; and partly as attorneys' chambers. Throsby tells us, that this hall was erected by Francis Pierrepont, third son of Robert Earl of Kingston, who died in 1657. This error on the part of Throsby has arisen from his misunderstanding a note in the 6th page of Deering; the house there said to have been built by that gentleman being the one in Stoney-street, mentioned above, and which bears his family name. Thoroton and the author of *Magna Britannia* tell us, that this hall was the residence of Thomas Thurland, who served the office of mayor of Nottingham in 1449 and 1468, and who, very probably erected it about that time. John Hollis was created Baron Houghton, of Houghton in this county, in 1616, and in 1624, was created Earl of Clare, whose fourth son married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Henry, the Third Duke of Newcastle, and was created Marquis of Clare and Duke of Newcastle, by William and Mary, 1694. This hall and the rest of the Thurland estate came to this family by purchase; and through its being made a place of residence by them it obtained the name of *Clare-hall*. In former times, assemblies were held in this hall every third Tuesday; but this custom has been laid aside long ago.

## **BUGGE HALL.**

It appears that a family of the name of Bugge, was either original inhabitants of this town, or settled in it about the time of King John ; and that they rose to considerable eminence, as, from them, sprung the Buggs of West Leak, the Biggs of Stamford, and the Willoughbies of this neighbourhood, of which the Middleton family at Wollaton is a branch. Thoroton says, “ Bugge Hall in Nottingham descended to Sir Richard de Bingham, Knight, of which name some continued “ in this town till the reign of Edward the Third ;” which proves that this Hall had been erected long before that time. It afterwards fell into the possession of a family of the name of Bakewell, from whom it took the name of *Bakewell Place*. And, from what I can gather from Thoroton, and the formation of the building, this ancient mansion is now the Old Angel public-house, at the end of St. Mary’s-gate, facing the county hall.

## **THE THEATRE**

Stands on the west side of St. Mary’s-gate, partly upon the site of an old one, and partly upon a piece of ground which was sold by the late Alderman Fellows, about the year 1760, for the purpose of the present building being erected. It was built by Mr. Whitely, a wealthy master of an itinerant company of players. Mr. Whitely’s daughter and heiress, was married to a French dancing and fencing master, who went by the name of *Gosli* ; but who, on obtaining an act of naturalization, assumed the name of *Carighan*, stating that to be his father’s name, who belonged to the Irish brigade in the French service. It is now held on lease by Messrs. Robertson and Manly, managers of a company of comedians, that visits this town three or four times a year, particularly at the races, and the October fair ; Mr. Robertson excelling as a comic, and Mr. Manly as a tragic actor.\*

## **THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS**

Stand in a back-ground on the north side of the Low-pavement. When the building was erected I have not been able correctly to ascertain ; but in 1807, it was so much deteriorated as to render a general repair necessary, particularly in the interior ; when the neighbouring noblemen, gentlemen, and ladies subscribed £1545 10s. In consequence of this liberal subscription, this seat of gaiety and refined amusement was fitted up in a superb style ; and from that time it was ordered that concerts should not be held therein.†

\* A few years ago, Miss Woodfall, daughter of the celebrated parliamentary reporter of that name, added lustre to the company by her tragic powers, to which her genius is peculiarly adapted. She married a third rate player of the name of M’Gibbon, and now figures away in the first characters in Drury-lane theatre. She acted as amanuensis to her father some time before his death ; and afterwards wrote *Rosa, or Child of the Asasy*, and another novel, for both of which she only got £10. She then took to the stage as a last resource, and success has crowned her efforts.

† It is worthy of remark that this temple, sacred to *Comus*, was agreed to be sold, about the year 1800, and a religious sect, who have since erected a Chapel, in Mary gate, had actually agreed for it ; but some of the disciples of the *merry God* took alarm, and caused the bargain to be rescinded ; and thereby saved the temple from being *polluted* with preaching, exhortations, and prayers.

**WORKHOUSES.**

That belonging to St. Mary's parish stands between York-street and the Mansfield-road, the ground for the erection of which was granted on a lease to the parish the 27th of June, 1729, for the term of 999 years, on an annual rent of one shilling. Time, however, had nearly reduced the old shell to ruins, and the parish had increased so much in its population, that, in 1808, an alteration was found indispensibly necessary; and the old site being too small for the purpose required, several vestry meetings were held on the subject; and the 15th of February in the same year, the following report was made, "February 10, 1808. The Corporation committee, consisting of E. Swann Esq. Deputy Mayor, Mr. Alderman Ashwell, Mr. Alderman Howitt, and Mr. Thomas Pepper, met the committee from the parish of St. Mary (deputed to treat for land whereon to erect a new workhouse, and to give up the present premises,) consisting of Mr. John Pepper, Mr. Micah Gedling, Mr. Nathaniel Barnsdall, Mr. William Aldrid, Mr. John Walker, Mr. Robert Booth, Mr. John Tutin, and Mr. William Warsop: and they agree reciprocally upon the terms (that is to say,) the parish of St. Mary to have upon Dog-kennel-hill four times the quantity of the site of the square of the old Workhouse, and of the detached buildings, yards, and garden, now occupied by the parish, which will amount to about 6240 yards; that part of the building called the old buildings, to be taken by the Corporation, at a valuation, as old materials; that part called the new buildings, to be taken by the Corporation, at a valuation as substantial buildings; the parish immediately to surrender to the Corporation their present legal estate in the present workhouse, and adjoining buildings and premises, but to be allowed to retain possession thereof as tenants at will, at the annual rent of £2 10s. for five years, unless the new workhouse be sooner completed; they covenanting to keep the buildings in the mean time in repair."

EDWARD SWANN, DEPUTY MAYOR.

JOHN PEPPER, CHAIRMAN.

"*Resolved*—That this meeting approve of the proceedings of the said committee; that this meeting be adjourned to Tuesday the 1st of March next, to receive from the committee a report of the final conclusion of the treaty with the Corporation."

JOHN BRISTOW, CHAIRMAN.

That the parishioners of St. Mary might not be an exception to the rest of mankind in their propensity to change, when they met in vestry, according to adjournment, they voted thanks to the committee, for their industry, and the Corporation for their liberality; and then, by a third resolution, undid what the industry of the one party had procured, and the liberality of the other had bestowed. They, at the same time voted that a new workhouse should be built upon the site of the old one, or that additions should be made to the latter by purchase.

A saving of expenses was the motive assigned for not complying with the agreement, but, in the purchasing, repairing, altering, and erecting of buildings, at least £5000 has been expended, which proved how injudicious it was to reject the agreement made with the Corporation. And,

notwithstanding the late Mr. Silverwood, architect and builder, did every thing in his power to make it a comfortable receptacle for the unfortunate, the whole, like a stage-coachman's top coat, is patched within and without to ward off the pitiless storm.

The same year that St. Mary's parish obtained a lease of the Corporation, St. Nicholas's did the same, and on similar terms: the ground on which the latter parish built a workhouse, lies on Gillyflower-hill. But, in 1813, the old workhouse was declared to be unfit for a habitation, and the site being considered too small for the erection of a new one, proportionate to the population of the parish, an extensive building at the bottom of Park-row, was purchased by the overseers, and was occupied by the poor the following spring.

St. Peter's workhouse formerly stood at the east end of Hounds'-gate, the parishioners having converted their share of the *white-rents* to that purpose; but, when the latter buildings were taken down, a new workhouse was erected on the south side of Broad-marsh, the site of which occupies a part of Margery Doubleday's bellclose, a lease of which was obtained from Lord Carrington, who is lessee to the Corporation.

### STREETS, LANES, &c.

The names of several streets, like many surnames of men, have sprung from particular trades, such as Bridlesmith-gate, Girdle, or Gridlesmith-gate, Wheeler, or Wheelwrights'-gate, and Smithy-row. Others from a distinctiveness of situation, such as High-street, High, Middle, and Low-pavements, (probably they were the first paved streets in the town,) Broad-lane, Long-row, Narrow-marsh, Broad-marsh, and Middle-marsh. Some took their names from places of worship, such as St. James's-street, St. Peter's-gate, Church-lane, Friar-lane, and Chapel-bar. Others again from being contiguous to particular places; such as Castle-gate, Park-street, Meadow-street, &c. Fletcher-gate, probably from *Fletcher*, a maker of arrows, a business of considerable consequence before the use of guns, and Pilcher-gate from pilch-makers living there; *pilch* being an upper garment lined with fur. Some took their names from persons of note, such as Pelham-street, (formerly Gridlesmith-gate,) Clinton-street, Newcastle-street, Clare-street, &c.—Others from the pleasantness of their situations, from being on a particular rising ground, or from facing this or that way; such as Mount-pleasant, Mount-street, (formerly Bearward-lane,) Mount-east-street, East-street, West-street, and South-street; and others from cattle and other things passing frequently to and fro; such as Cow-lane,\* Sheep-lane, Millstone-lane, and Goose-gate; and others again from particular persons having resided in them, or animals being kept there; such as Jew-lane,† Hounds'-gate, and Spaniel-row. Parliament-street took its name

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\* The name of Cow-lane was changed for that of Clumber-street in 1811, by order of the Corporation, in honor of the Duke of Newcastle for his having ordered 16 feet of ground on the east side of the street to widen it in the same year.—The name of Boot-lane was changed to that of Milton-street about the same time, in consequence of the Milton's Head inn, being in the street.

† On this subject Deering has the following words:—"By an exemplification of the king's ancient possessions in Nottingham, out of the pipe-office, it appears that there were several houses of Jews, as also a synagogue in Nottingham, until in the 20th of Edward the First the king granted the same to Hugh Putrell, of Thurmenton, and to his heirs for ever, paying annually to his Majesty on Michaelmas-day "by the hands of the bailiff of Nottingham, one penny."

from the following circumstance :—a crazy headed fellow of the name of Rouse, whom many still remember, and who had a little property, took it into his head to become a candidate for representing the town in parliament; and, residing in this street, he took umbrage at its bearing so pitiful a name as *The Backside*; he accordingly got boards painted and stuck up at proper places which informed the passengers that this was *Parliament-street*.—Wright-alley took its name from a person of the name of Wright Hawley residing in it, who died a few years ago, and who was a celebrated electioneerer in the tory interest. Tollhouse-hill took its name from a house standing upon it at which some tolls belonging to the Corporation were collected. And St. Ann's-street from its leading the way to St. Ann's-well.

### NAMES OF THE PRINCIPAL STREETS, &c.

ANGEL-ROW	CROSS-STREET	LINCOLN-STREET
ANN's (ST.) STREET	CUR-LANE	LOW-PAVEMENT
BACK-LANE	DERBY-ROAD	MAIDEN-LANE
BARKER-GATE	DRURY-HILL	MALIN-HILL
BEASTMARKET-HILL	EXCHANGE	MANSFIELD-ROAD
BECK-BARN	FINKHILL-STREET	MARKET-STREET
BECK-LANE	FISHER-GATE	MARY's (ST.) CHURCH-SIDE
BELLAR-GATE	FLETCHER-GATE	MARY's (ST.) GATE
BOTTLE-LANE	FOX-LANE	MIDDLE-HILL
BREWHOUSE-YARD	FRIAR-LANE	MIDDLE-MARSH
BRIDGE-STREET	FYNE-STREET	MIDDLE-PAVEMENT
BRIDLESMITH-GATE	GARNER's-HILL	MILK-STREET
BROAD-LANE	GEORGE-STREET	MILLSTONE-LANE
BROAD-MARSH	GILLIFLOWER-HILL	MILTON-STREET
BROOK-STREET	GLASSHOUSE-LANE	MOUNTEAST-STREET
BUTCHER-STREET	GOOSE-GATE	MOUNT-STREET
BYARD-LANE	GRANBY-STREET	NARROW-MARSH
CANAL-STREET	GREYFRIAR's-GATE	NEWCASTLE-STREET
CARLTON-STREET	HIGHCROSS-STREET	NILE-STREET
CARTER-GATE	HIGH-PAVEMENT	NORTH-STREET
CASTLE-GATE	HIGH-STREET	OLD-STREET
CHANDLERS'-LANE	HOCKLEY	OUTSIDE-BAR
CHAPEL-BAR	HOLLOW-STONE	PARK-ROW
CHARLOTTE-STREET	HOUNDS'-GATE	PARK-STREET
CHEAPSIDE	HOWARD-STREET	PARLIAMENT-STREET
CHESTERFIELD-STREET	INDEPENDENT-HILL	PECK-LANE
CHURCH-LANE	JAMES's (ST.) CHURCH-SIDE	PELHAM-STREET
CLARE-STREET	JAMES's (ST.) STREET	PENNYFOOT-LANE
CLINTON-STREET	JEW-LANE	PEPPER-STREET
CLUMBER-STREET	JOHN's (ST.) STREET	PETER's (ST.) CHURCH-SIDE
COALPIT-LANE	LEEN-SIDE	PETER's (ST.) CHURCH-YARD
COUNT-STREET	LISTER-GATE	PETER's (ST.) GATE
CROSS-LANE	LONG-ROW	PETER's (ST.) SQUARE

PILCHER-GATE  
PLAT-STREET  
POPLAR-PLACE  
POULTRY  
QUEEN-STREET  
RED-LION-SQUARE  
RICHMOND-HILL  
ROOKERY  
ROSEMARY-LANE  
RUTLAND-STREET

SHAW'S-LANE  
SHEEP-LANE  
SHORT-HILL  
SHORT-STAIRS  
SMITHY-ROW  
SNENTON-STREET  
SPANIEL-ROW  
STONEY-STREET  
TIMBER-HILL  
TOLLHOUSE-HILL

TURNCALF-ALLEY  
WALNUT-TREE-LANE  
WARSER-GATE  
WATER-LANE  
WEEKDAY-CROSS  
WHEELER-GATE  
WOOLPACK-LANE  
WOOD-STREET  
YORK-STREET

## UPON STANDARD-HILL.

STANDARD-STREET ; KING-STREET ; CHARLES-STREET ; HILL-STREET.

## COURTS, YARDS, ALLEYS, &amp;c. AND WHERE SITUATED.

<i>Names</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>
ANDREW-COURT	<i>York-street</i>
Angel-alley	- <i>Woolpack-lane</i>
Ant-hill	- <i>Meynel-row</i>
Apple-row	- <i>Milk-street</i>
Arrow-yard	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>
Augean-place	- <i>Maiden-lane</i>
BAIL-ROW	- <i>York-street</i>
Ball-lane	- <i>Coalpit-lane</i>
Ball-yard	- <i>Broad-marsh</i>
Balloon-court	- <i>Mount-east-street</i>
Barker's-yard	- <i>St. Ann's-street</i>
Barley-court	- <i>York-street</i>
Baron-row	- <i>Water-lane</i>
Bat-lane	- <i>York-street</i>
Bath-court	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>
Bear-court	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>
Bear-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Beck-square	- <i>Coalpit-lane</i>
Bellfounders'-yd.	- <i>Long-row</i>
Bilbie's-yard	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>
Bishop-row	- <i>Turncalf-alley</i>
Black-yard	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Black-boy-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Blucher-row	- <i>Poplar-place</i>
Bond-street	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>
Boot-court	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>
Bottle-alley	- <i>Bottle-lane</i>
Bran-court	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>
Brewer-street	- <i>Butcher-street</i>
Bright-alley	- <i>Carter-gate</i>
Brittannia-yard	- <i>Mount-street</i>

<i>Names</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>
Brook-alley	- <i>Coalpit-lane</i>
Budge-row	- <i>Mount-street</i>
Bull-court	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Bull-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Burdett's-court	- <i>Snenton-street</i>
Butchers'-court	- <i>Beck-barn</i>
Butler's-court	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Bunker's-hill	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
CABBAGE-COURT	- <i>Charlotte-street</i>
Cannon-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Capon-court	- <i>Charlotte-street</i>
Carter-row	- <i>Carter-gate</i>
Castle-alley	- <i>Finkhill-street</i>
Castle-court	- <i>Millstone-lane</i>
Castle-place	- <i>Park-street</i>
Chambers's-yard	- <i>Old-street</i>
Chancery-court	- <i>Broad-marsh</i>
Chapel's-court	- <i>Byard-lane</i>
Charles-street	- <i>Plat-street</i>
Cheetham's-yard	- <i>Wood-street</i>
Cherry-street	- <i>Coalpit-lane</i>
Clare-court	- <i>Clare-street</i>
Clark's-yard	- <i>Milton-street</i>
Clark's-square	- <i>Cross-street</i>
Click-lane	- <i>Outside-bar</i>
Close-alley	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>
Coal-court	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
Cock-court	- <i>St. Ann's-street</i>
Cow-court	- <i>Carter-gate</i>
Cow-yard	- <i>Carter-gate</i>
Cowslip-court	- <i>Hockley</i>

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>
Commerce-row	- <i>Beck-barn</i>
Cork-alley	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
Cooper's-court	- <i>Glasshouse-lane</i>
Crank-court	- <i>Milk-street</i>
Crickit-court	- <i>Barker-gate</i>
Crosland-court	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Crosland-street	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Cross-court	- <i>Cross-street</i>
Crow-court	- <i>Park-street</i>
Crown-court	- <i>Millstone-lane</i>
Crown-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Cullen's-court	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
Currant-street	- <i>Turncalf-alley</i>
Curtis's-yard	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
Cyprus-street	- <i>Beck-barn</i>
DALE'S-YARD	- <i>Weekday-cross</i>
Darker's-court	- <i>Broad-marsh</i>
Darker's-lane	- <i>Broad-marsh</i>
Dodson's-yard	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Dot-yard	- <i>Greyfriar's-gate</i>
Dove-yard	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
Drake-street	- <i>Plat-street</i>
Duke-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Duke's-place	- <i>Barker-gate</i>
Dutch-alley	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
EARL-STREET	- <i>Water-lane</i>
East-street	- <i>High-cross-street</i>
East-street	- <i>Plat-street</i>
Ely-court	- <i>Chesterfield-street</i>
Exchange-court	- <i>Mount-street</i>
Exchange-alley	- <i>Exchange</i>

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>
FELIX-PLACE	- <i>Barker-gate</i>	Latimer-alley	- <i>Lamb-lane</i>	North-row	- <i>Beck-barn</i>
Fen-yard	- <i>Barker-gate</i>	Leather-alley	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	OCTAGON-YARD	- <i>Lamb-lane</i>
Fish-court	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>	Lemon-court	- <i>Hockley</i>	Octagon-place	- <i>Charlotte-street</i>
Flint-court	- <i>Garner's-hill</i>	Leen court	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Old-pottery	- <i>Beck-barn</i>
Fountain-place	- <i>Woolpack-lane</i>	Leen-row	- <i>Leen-side</i>	Olive-row	- <i>Mount-street</i>
Frame-court	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Lincoln-court	- <i>Millstone-lane</i>	Owen's-court	- <i>Count-street</i>
Frame-yard	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Line-alley	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>	Orange-boven-ct.	- <i>Glasshouse-lane</i>
Freeman's-court	- <i>Glasshouse-lane</i>	Lion-court	- <i>Castle-gate</i>	PACK-COURT	- <i>Woolpack-lane</i>
Frog-alley	- <i>Milk-street</i>	Lock-court	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Pack-yard	- <i>Woolpack-lane</i>
GOAL-COURT	- <i>St. Ann's-street</i>	Lodge-yard	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Palace-yard	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
George-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>	Long-stairs	- <i>Malin-hill</i>	Pannier-row	- <i>Mount-east-street</i>
Garden-court	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>	Low-cross-street	- <i>High-cross-street</i>	Paradise-row	- <i>Coalpit-lane</i>
Garter-court	- <i>Old-street</i>	Lowe's-yard	- <i>Leen-side</i>	Park-square	- <i>Rutland-street</i>
Gibraltar-straits	- <i>Bellar-gate</i>	MALE-COURT	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>	Parliament-row	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
Glass-court	- <i>York-street</i>	Maltmill-lane	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Parrot-court	- <i>Middle-marsh</i>
Glue-court	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Malt-court	- <i>Charlotte-street</i>	Paul-yard	- <i>St. Peter's-gate</i>
Goodall's-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>	Mark-lane	- <i>Derby-road</i>	Peach-street	- <i>Turncalf-alley</i>
Grape-yard	- <i>St. Ann's-street</i>	Marsden's-court	- <i>Turncalf-alley</i>	Pear-street	- <i>Turncalf-alley</i>
Green's-court	- <i>Plat-street</i>	Mary's (St.) place	- <i>Mary-gate</i>	Pelham-court	- <i>Pelham-street</i>
Green-yard	- <i>Angel-row</i>	Matthew's-court	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Pelt-alley	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Greyhound-street	- <i>Long-row</i>	Maypole-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>	Pennel's-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Groom-court	- <i>Peter's-ch.-side</i>	Meadow-street	- <i>Turncalf-alley</i>	Pepper-alley	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>
HALIFAX-STREET	- <i>Pilcher-gate</i>	Meal-court	- <i>St. James's-street</i>	Perch-court	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>
Hare-yard	- <i>Mount-street</i>	Meal-yard	- <i>St. James's-street</i>	Pheasant-square	- <i>Lamb-lane</i>
Harvey's-row	- <i>Derby-road</i>	Meynell-row	- <i>Plat-street</i>	Pia-alley	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>
Hawkesworth-yd.	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Meynell-court	- <i>Plat-street</i>	Pipe-street	- <i>Snenton-street</i>
Hill's-court	- <i>Millstone-lane</i>	Michael's-row	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>	Platoff-row	- <i>Wood-street</i>
Hind's-yard	- <i>Angel-row</i>	Middle-row	- <i>Exchange</i>	Plat-court	- <i>Wood-street</i>
Hoop-alley	- <i>Carter-gate</i>	Mill-alley	- <i>Hockley</i>	Pleasant-row	- <i>Wood-street</i>
IRON-YARD	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Mill-street	- <i>Back-lane</i>	Plum-street	- <i>Turncalf-alley</i>
Ice-court	- <i>St. Peter's-gate</i>	Milk-square	- <i>Milk-street</i>	Plumtre-place	- <i>Stoney-street</i>
James's-place	- <i>Granby-street</i>	Mirror-alley	- <i>Count-street</i>	Plumtre-street	- <i>Stoney-street</i>
Jason-row	- <i>Pennyfoot-lane</i>	Mirror-court	- <i>Count-street</i>	Point-court	- <i>Park-street</i>
John's (St.) Row	- <i>St. John's-street</i>	Mitre-court	- <i>Milton-street</i>	Pole-court	- <i>Pelham-street</i>
John's-court	- <i>Glasshouse-lane</i>	Mole-court	- <i>Milton-street</i>	Pomfret-street	- <i>Carter-gate</i>
KENNEL-HILL	- <i>Mansfield-road</i>	Monk-court	- <i>St. Ann's-street</i>	Portland-place	- <i>Coalpit-lane</i>
Kid-street	- <i>Plat-street</i>	Moor's-yard	- <i>Barker-gate</i>	Postern-place	- <i>Middle-pavement</i>
King's-court	- <i>Woolpack-lane</i>	Mount-court	- <i>Mount-street</i>	Poynton-street	- <i>Back-lane</i>
King's-place	- <i>Stoney-street</i>	Mount-east-court	- <i>Mount-east-street</i>	Prior-court	- <i>Spaniel-row</i>
King's-square	- <i>Woolpack-lane</i>	Mount-plasant	- <i>Mount-street</i>	Prince's-square	- <i>Millstone-lane</i>
King's-street	- <i>Woolpack-lane</i>	NAMELESS-ALLEY	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Province-court	- <i>Millstone-lane</i>
Kingston-court	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Navigation-row	- <i>Leen-side</i>	Pump-street	- <i>Plat-street</i>
Knob-alley	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Ncedle-row	- <i>Milk-street</i>	Prime-court	- <i>Millstone-lane</i>
Knotted-alley	- <i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Newcastle-court	- <i>Newcastle-street</i>	RABBIT-COURT	- <i>Parliament-street</i>
LAG-YARD	- <i>Angel-row</i>	New-street	- <i>Parliament-street</i>	Ram-yard	- <i>Long-row</i>
Lamb-lane	- <i>Charlotte-street</i>	New-street	- <i>Fisher-gate</i>	Ratcliffe-row	- <i>Coalpit-lane</i>
Lammas-place	- <i>Back-lane</i>	Newark-lane	- <i>Count-street</i>	Raven-court	- <i>Milk-street</i>

<i>Names.</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>	<i>Names.</i>	<i>Where situated.</i>
Red-street - -	<i>Plat-street</i>	Skiuner-street -	<i>Butcher-street</i>	Trumpet-street	<i>Beck-barn</i>
Renshaw's-yard	<i>Mary-gate</i>	Slop-court - -	<i>Milk-street</i>	Tuff-court - -	<i>Middle-marsh</i>
Rice-place - -	<i>Barker-gate</i>	Soail-alley - -	<i>Barker-gate</i>	Twig-alley - -	<i>Woolpack-lane</i>
Ricc-row - -	<i>Barker-gate</i>	Snow-hill - -	<i>Richmond-hill</i>	Tyler-street -	<i>Plat-street</i>
Richmond-street	<i>Richmond-hill</i>	South-street -	<i>Coalpit-lane</i>	UNION-STREET	<i>Plat-street</i>
Rigley's-yard -	<i>Long-row</i>	Sprat-court - -	<i>Fisher-gate</i>	Vat-yard - -	<i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Robin-Hood-pla.	<i>Coalpit-lane</i>	Stag-court - -	<i>Charlotte-street</i>	Vesey's-yard -	<i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Rook's-yard -	<i>Barker-gate</i>	Stamp-court -	<i>Angel-row</i>	Vine-street - -	<i>Glasshouse-lane</i>
Rose-row - -	<i>Woolpack-lane</i>	Stanhope-street	<i>Carter-gate</i>	WARREN-COURT	<i>York-street</i>
Rose-yard - -	<i>Bridlesmith-gate</i>	Star-court - -	<i>St. James's-street</i>	Web-court - -	<i>Back-lane</i>
Rose-place - -	<i>Fletcher-gate</i>	Stone-court -	<i>Parliament-street</i>	Wellington-court	<i>Mount-east-street</i>
Rumford-row -	<i>Beck-barn</i>	Stone's-yard -	<i>Bottle-lane</i>	Wellington-street	<i>Water-lane</i>
Rutland-place -	<i>Granby-street</i>	Stretton's-yard	<i>Parliament-street</i>	West-street - -	<i>Iligh-cross-street</i>
SALMON-COURT	<i>Charlotte-street</i>	Summer's-yard	<i>Long-row</i>	Wharf-street -	<i>Butcher-street</i>
Shakespear-alley	<i>Milton-street</i>	Sun-hill - -	<i>Richmond-hill</i>	Wheat-sheaf-yard	<i>Long-row</i>
Shakespear-row	<i>Charlotte-street</i>	Swan-court -	<i>Carter-gate</i>	White-street -	<i>Carter-gate</i>
Sherwin's-court	<i>Coalpit-lane</i>	Swift-yard - -	<i>Long-row</i>	Wheel-yard -	<i>Carter-gate</i>
Sherwood-lane	<i>Charlotte-street</i>	TALBOT-YARD -	<i>Long-row</i>	Willoughby-row	<i>Fisher-gate</i>
Ship-yard - -	<i>Pelham-street</i>	Tanner's-hall-crt.	<i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Wing-alley - -	<i>Woolpack-lane</i>
Shoe-court - -	<i>Milton-street</i>	Taylor's-yard -	<i>Long-row</i>	Wood-court -	<i>Mansfield-road</i>
Shore-yard - -	<i>Greyfriar's-gate</i>	Ten-bells-yard	<i>Narrow-marsh</i>	Wool-alley - -	<i>Woolpack-lane</i>
Silkmill-yard -	<i>Long-row</i>	Thread-yard -	<i>Mount-street</i>	Wright-alley -	<i>Narrow-marsh</i>
Simpson's-court	<i>Milton-street</i>	Toll-street - -	<i>Back-lane</i>	Wright's-yard	<i>Wood-street</i>
Sinker-alley -	<i>Mansfield-road</i>	Trent-row - -	<i>Canal-street</i>	YORK-COURT -	<i>Millstone-lane*</i>
Silverwood's-yard	<i>Bellar-gate</i>	Trim-court - -	<i>Charlotte-street</i>		

There is an old saying here, *that Nottingham once stood on Mapperley-hills*, which is exemplified by the greater part of the bricks of which the town is built being made at that place. Excellent lime is brought from Bulwell and Papplewick, which villages are but a few miles off. Plaster is found in abundance at Cropwell, Thrumpton, and Newark-upon-Trent. Till within about a century ago the pavement consisted of such pebble-stones as were found in the bed of the Trent. These gave way to a large sort of pebbles, here called *boulders*, which were brought from Keyworth and other places; and these in their turn have yielded to a coarse and durable kind of granite, got in the mountains of Leicestershire. Derbyshire limestone has been tried within the last twenty years; but it is found too susceptible of moisture, and consequently wears away in a short time.

\* In Spede's ground plan of the town, the only streets we find are the following:—Carter-gate, which began at the top of Parliament-street, and passed by the house of correction down Coalpit-lane, and thence to the top of Fisher-gate; Cow-lane, Gridlesmith-gate, Rearward-lane, St. James-lane, White-Friar's-lane, Hun-gate, Wheelwright-lane, Castle-lane, Broad-marsh, Narrow-marsh, Vault-lane, now *Drury-hill*, Low-pavement, Middle-pavement, High-pavement, Pepper-street, Bridlesmith-gate, Woller-lane, now *Byard-lane*, Lymby-lane, now *Bottle-lane*, Chaler's-lane, now *Chondlers'-lane*, Swine-green, now *Carlton-street*, Gosse (*Goose*) Gate, Worser-lane, now *Warser-gate*, Newark-lane, now *Woolpack-lane*, Barker (*Gate*) lane, St. Marie-gate, Pitcher-gate, Halifax-lane, Stoney-street, Bellar-gate, Fisher-gate, Malin-hill, and Flesher-gate, probably so called from ignorance of the real name, *Fletcher-gate*, or want of attention to the spelling.



**LAMPS.**

In the year 1762 an act of parliament was obtained for lighting the town. The market-place and all the then, principal streets, were therefore supplied with lamps, though not with a sufficient number; and, for want of reflectors, the deficiency is still more lamentably perceived; while many of the newly erected streets, alleys, &c., have no light at all in the night, except when favored by the moon's silver beams. This act may now be considered a nonentity, as it allows only two hundred and fifty lamps, and but a levy of sixpence in the pound for all the expenses attending them; the commissioners and magistrates therefore act independently of it, both as respects number and expense; and pity it is that they do not farther extend their useful authority.

**POPULATION.**

Various schemes have been pursued to arrive at some fixed *datum*, whereby the population of towns and cities, and of the world at large might be ascertained with precision. Some writers have endeavoured to obtain it by calculating from the number of burials found in parish registers; a plan extremely fallacious, as respects towns and cities, on account of the numbers that are interred in dissenting burying grounds; and not less so, as far as respects the population of the world, in consequence of the myriads that find a grave in the ocean, and in the field of battle. The surest way is to fix the population upon some admitted *datum*; and then calculate upon Dr. Price's, or Mr. Gregory King's plan; from which the number of annual deaths will be come at, barring unusual mortality. But, for the satisfaction of the reader, we will give the number of baptisms and burials for the following years:—

	1798		1802		1806		1810		1814	
	Baptisms.	Burials.	Baptisms.	Burials.	Baptisms.	Burials.	Baptisms.	Burials.	Baptisms.	Burials.
St. Mary's	817	580	949	619	1010	548	983	717	1000	679
St. Peter's	71	97	89	84	68	98	99	104	71	95
St. Nicholas's	89	118	109	121	101	102	122	142	122	126

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, about the year 1040, Nottingham contained 192 men, for so we find it recorded in Domesday-book, which number would give about 800 inhabitants. The town was twice surveyed by William the Conqueror, the first time it contained 136 men; and the last time, which would be about the year 1083, for the purpose of completing Domesday-book, which was finished in 1085, there were only 120 men, though there were 217 houses. This falling off in population from the time of Edward the Confessor, probably was occasioned by the tyranny of William, as the declension in the number of its brave inhabitants, from the year 866, when the Danes besieged it, had been occasioned by the ravages of those savage invaders, and by the patriotic resistance made to their domination. We next come to the year 1377, when the poll tax was laid on; and the collecting of which caused the rebellion of *Wat Tyler*. According to a subsidy roll relative to this tax, presented to the Antiquarian Society by Mr. Topham, in 1784, there were 1447 lay persons in Nottingham, of fourteen years

of age and upwards, of whom fourpence a head was collected in support of this odious tax\*.— And as one third of the people were supposed to consist of clergy, mendicants, and children under fourteen, this will give Nottingham a population at that time of 2170.

From this time till towards the latter end of the sixteenth century we find no *data* whereon to calculate the population of Nottingham. In 1567, St. Mary's; in 1572, St. Peter's; and in 1562, St. Nicholas's parish commenced recording burials: in the first five years after such dates, St. Mary's annually averaged 50; St. Peter's 14; and St. Nicholas's 12 deaths; to which we may add 24, taking the parishes together, for those whose remains would be taken to other places, for the sake of mixing with the ashes of departed kindred; and for the omissions which would very probably, occur in the registers on their first being instituted; which numbers united will give 100 deaths annually for the five years alluded to; and this, by calculating on Dr. Price's plan, which has received the sanction of experimental proof, we shall find the number of inhabitants in Nottingham, at that time, amount to 3100, giving an increase of 930 in about 200 years. The paucity of increase in this length of time may be accounted for from the war carried on between the houses of York and Lancaster for the crown, the most senseless of all the wars carried on by the English; which began soon after the accession of Henry the Fourth, in 1399, and ended with the battle of Market-Bosworth, on the 22d of August, 1485, at which time Richard the Third lost his crown and his life. In this mortal conflict between the *white* and *red* roses (the former of which became dyed with blood, and the latter received a deeper tinge by its frequent immersions in the same fluid) there were fourteen battles fought, independent of numerous skirmishes, and many of them equal, in point of slaughter, to those of modern times; and in which, it is very probable, many Nottingham men fell a sacrifice; particularly in the last of the awful number, for Richard, who was much attached to this town, marched from it to the fatal field of Bosworth, and here too his army had principally been collected†. Hence we have a right to conclude that

\* The following are the cities and towns whose population exceeded 2000 lay persons, of fourteen years and upwards, when the above tax was collected:—

<i>Cities and Towns.</i>	<i>Lay persons</i>	<i>Souls.</i>	<i>Cities and Towns.</i>	<i>Lay persons.</i>	<i>Souls.</i>
London - - -	23,314	34,977	Colchester - - -	2,955	4,432
York - - -	7,248	10,872	Beverley - - -	2,663	3,994
Bristol - - -	6,345	9,517	Newcastle-upon-Tyne - - -	2,647	3,970
Plymouth - - -	4,837	7,255	Canterbury - - -	2,574	3,861
Coventry - - -	4,817	7,255	Bury (St. Edmund's) - - -	2,442	3,663
Norwich - - -	3,952	5,928	Oxford - - -	2,357	3,535
Lincoln - - -	3,412	5,118	Gloucester - - -	2,239	3,358
Salum (Wilts) - - -	3,226	4,839	Leicester - - -	2,101	3,151
Lynn - - -	3,127	4,690	Shrewsbury - - -	2,082	3,123

† It appears from the following interesting circumstance that Henry had his partizans too, in this neighbourhood; for Sir John Byron would not go to the battle single-handed, as his wealth placed so many dependants under his control. Sir John Byron and Sir Gervas Clifton were intimate friends, as well as neighbours; and though the former took the part of Henry, and the latter that of Richard, this nowise diminished their friendship; and, previous to the battle of Bosworth, they reciprocally took the following oath:—"That, if either of them were vanquished, the other should intercede with the conqueror, that the estate of the loser might not be forfeited, but enjoyed by his family." While Clifton was bravely fighting in the troop, he received a blow which overpowered him, and he fell. Byron observing the fall, quitted the ranks, and ran to the relief of his suffering friend, sustained him on the ground, guarded him with his shield, and intreated him to surrender. Clifton replied, "All is over; I beg my dear friend you will remember the oath between us.—

many Nottingham men fell in the conflict; which would be a considerable drawback upon the population a long time afterwards. During the space of eighty-five years we find tyrant contending against tyrant; and the people were the murdered slaves and dupes of the whole.

We next come to the account given by Deering, which appears to have been taken by some sloven of a calculator in the year 1739. Here we find the number of houses is pretended to be given; while five streets, of which Narrow-marsh is one, are ranked in the list without a single house being set down. The number of inhabitants however, as it stands in the account is 9890; and the editor of Deering, whoever he might be, assures us, that the calculation was made by a person going from house to house. In Lowe's Agricultural Survey of Nottinghamshire, we find in the year 1779, the number of houses, families, and inhabitants in the town distinctly recorded as follows :—\*

<i>Houses.</i>	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Inhabitants.</i>
3191	3556	17711

In the year 1793, Sir Richard Sutton surveyed the town, and found the number of inhabitants to be 25000. In 1801, when a general *census* was taken of the kingdom, the number of houses, families, &c. in this town stood as under :—

<i>Inhabited Houses</i>	<i>Houses not Inhabited.</i>	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Souls.</i>
4977	100	6707	28861

And, in 1811, another *census* of the kingdom was taken, when the following statement was given for Nottingham, which is a striking proof of the industry of the town, rising superior to every difficulty; for that year and two or three preceding ones, had brought more of the calamities of war upon the inhabitants, in the loss of trade, than had been witnessed during the memory of man.

	<i>Inhabited Houses.</i>	<i>Uninhabited Houses.†</i>	<i>Families.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
St. Mary's parish - - - -	5228	249	5585	12381	14990	27371
St. Peter's - - - - -	529	11	568	1270	1569	2139
St. Nicholas's - - - - -	730	24	748	1720	2103	3823
Brewhouse-yard - - - -	16	—	17	44	63	107
Standard-hill and Castle-wharf	25	—	27	122	101	223
Total	6528	284	6945	15537	18826	34363

The population of Great Britain long remained a subject of controversy among writers on the internal policy and strength of the kingdom, as well with respect to the actual number of the inhabitants, as their increase or diminution; until the question, respecting the number, was finally set at rest by an act which received the royal assent on the 31st of December, 1800, and which directed a general enumeration of houses, families, and persons, to be given in on the 10th of

\* Victory is your's. Use all your interest, that my lands may not be taken from my children." The worthy Byron, upon the point of renewing his promise, perceived that his friend was departing, and exclaimed with emotion, "Stay, my dear Clifton. stay!" A hut, alas! the wound was mortal, and the unfortunate Clifton expired on the field. Perhaps Byron performed the oath he took, and the promise he would have renewed; for Sir Gervais Clifton, the descendant of him who fell, now enjoys the same estate, which was possessed by his ancestors many centuries prior to the battle of Bosworth.

*Hutton's History of the Battle of Bosworth Field.*

\* Mr. Lowe says Deering's calculation is 10720; but, in the copy of that author in my possession the number is as given above.

† The number of uninhabited houses was greater this year than at any other known period of time.

March following for England and Wales, and for Scotland as soon as the season should permit. This proviso was made in the act on account of the cold climate in Scotland rendering it impossible for persons engaged in the business to traverse the bleak mountains of that part of the United Kingdom so early in the year. In 1811, another *census* was taken, by order of parliament, to ascertain whether the population increased or diminished, and what the difference of such increase or diminution was ; the following table may be entertaining to the reader, as in it both questions so long disputed will be found set at rest.

The population of Great Britain, as taken in the years 1801 and 1811, stated and contrasted :—

1801				1811			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Increase.
England - - - - -	3,987,935	4,343,499	8,331,434	4,575,763	4,963,064	9,538,827	1,207,393
Wales - - - - -	257,178	284,368	541,546	291,633	320,155	611,788	70,242
Scotland - - - - -	734,581	164,487	1,599,068	826,191	979,497	1,805,688	206,620
Army and navy, and convicts	470,598		470,598	640,500		640,500	169,602
Total -	5,450,292	5,492,354	10,942,646	6,334,087	6,262,716	12,596,803	1,654,157*

A circumstance which had caused considerable disagreement in the estimates, that had been made on the numerical strength of the country, previous to the enumeration in 1801, was the want of a proper *datum*, whereby to determine the proportion of persons to a house. Dr. Davenant and Dr. Brakenridge reckoned six persons to a house ; while Mr. Gregory King allowed rather more than *four* and a *half* in London, and *four* and *three-tenths* in the cities and market towns, and *four* in the villages. The fact now appears to be, that in England and Wales the proportion is, *five* and *three-fifths* persons to a house, and in Scotland *five* and *two-fifths*. Taking twenty-five of the most populous cities and towns, of which Nottingham is the thirteenth, London has *seven* and *one-fourth*, Plymouth *nine* and *three-fourths*, Sheffield *four* and *three-fourths*, and Norwich, the lowest, (as Plymouth is the highest of the number,) *four* and a *half*. In 1801, the proportion to each house in Nottingham was, as near as the number can be divided, *five* and *three-fourths* to a house ; and in 1811, *five* and *one-third*.

In a level country, subject to become the bloody theatre of contending nations, where the hope of permanent possession is subordinate in the breasts of rival leaders, to that of plunder and devastation, villages are almost unknown ; as near the whole population is cooped up in walled towns and fortified cities ; personal security being no where else to be found.—From the conquest of this country by William, to the reign of Henry the Seventh, the garrisoned towns and cities in England were just the reverse ; they being considered more as haunts of refuge for men of desperate fortunes, than as places of settled residence for the general population of the country : the feudal lords having an interest in keeping these places thinly inhabited, because, *there* a spirit of independence was fostered by an union of sentiment, which often became a thorn in the bosom

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\* The population of the earth is generally admitted to amount to 800,000,000 ; and some writers contend, that one human being departs this life every moment, which would make the deaths annually amount to 31,556,940 ; but this display of mortality is better adapted to impress the mind with the awful lesson, that the scythe of death nearly keeps pace with the beating of a pendulum, than to assist the statistical calculator in his researches.

of their pride. These feudal lords, the better to ensure a continuance of their power over the lower orders of society, compelled their vassals to reside in scattered villages, to prevent the seed of independence being sown in the hot-bed of the mind by a combination of sentiment and a community of interests. Though the tyrant is a stranger to those fine pulsations of the heart, which dispense sympathy to the sufferer, and justice to the injured, yet he is taught, as the first lesson of his creed, that mutual sufferings beget mutual friendship; and that these, when combined, are ever active in devising means to break down the barriers which separate man from those comforts that heaven designed as the reward of his virtues, his industry, and his courage.

The crown of England being often contended for by rival claimants, the possessors of it strove to obtain command of the garrison cities and towns; not so much for the sake of plunder, as to secure them to themselves, that they might overawe the respective districts where they were situated, and dragoon the neighbouring youth into their armies. These towns too often had to sustain the shock of besieging hosts, led on by enraged chiefs. Thus the means provided by nature and art for personal protection were often turned to its annoyance; and garrisoned towns were looked upon more as nurseries of evil, than as places of protection against insult and wrong. To these obstacles to a dense population may be added the very numerous and superlatively destructive foreign wars in which this country was engaged, in the space of time of which we are speaking, which drained the towns and villages indiscriminately of their youth, (except the vassals, that were not permitted to go, or not subject to be taken without the consent of their lords;) so much so, that we find by an Act of the Ninth of Henry the Fifth, that there was not a sufficient number of respectable persons in the respective counties to act as sheriffs, coroners, and escheaters. Such were the obstacles with which trade had to contend, before it could give a population to its favorite haunts, commensurate to the ample promotion of its future glory. Nottingham having a fortress at that time, which was formed by nature and improved by art, caused it to feel the weight of the evils we have been speaking of, in the plenitude of their vengeance; but the feudal system and the war between the *Roses* ceased at no very distant period prior to the invention of the Stocking Frame, which has given it a population far superior to many of those towns that were distinguished above it, when the odious Poll Tax was levied.

### PROVISIONS.

Deering, when writing under this head, says, "Upon the whole, thus much may be said in general, that nothing is so cheap (in this town) as to render it contemptible; nor any thing requisite to a comfortable way of living so dear, but that the *middling* people, in the respective season, may have a share." About that time, that is about the year 1756, tea and sugar were becoming articles of general use; and our author seems highly disgusted that "seamers, sizers, winders, &c." should be partakers of them; and he particularly inveighs against these people making use of snuff, which he says, was in general use among them. This shews, that when speaking of "the middling people" he did not allude to the working class in general. He distinguishes provisions into *immediate necessities*, and *less necessities*; among the former he

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classes bread, malt, shambles' meat, butter, cheese, eggs, salt-fish, beans, peas, and common vegetables. Among the latter, he ranks poultry of every kind, fresh fish of every kind, rabbits, broccoli, cauliflowers, asparagus, spices, and other grocery goods.

Few markets can surpass ours for shambles' meat ; and, indeed, if any of a very inferior sort be exposed for sale, the Corporate servants, under the direction of two examining butchers, seize and burn it. The fish-market, generally speaking, is very indifferently supplied, principally owing to a combination of the fish-mongers, who, in a plentiful season, carry the fish to Derby, Birmingham, &c. for the purpose of keeping up the price ; and who, when compared with the London fish-mongers, are such slovens in their business, as to disgust a person, that generally resides in the metropolis, with the sight of their ware. The gardeners' market is tolerably well supplied the year round ; and the price of the articles is pretty well kept down in the spring and summer seasons, by the number of country people who bring vegetables to sell from Newark, Castle Donington, &c. Butter and eggs always fetch high prices.

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## CHAPTER IV.

### CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.

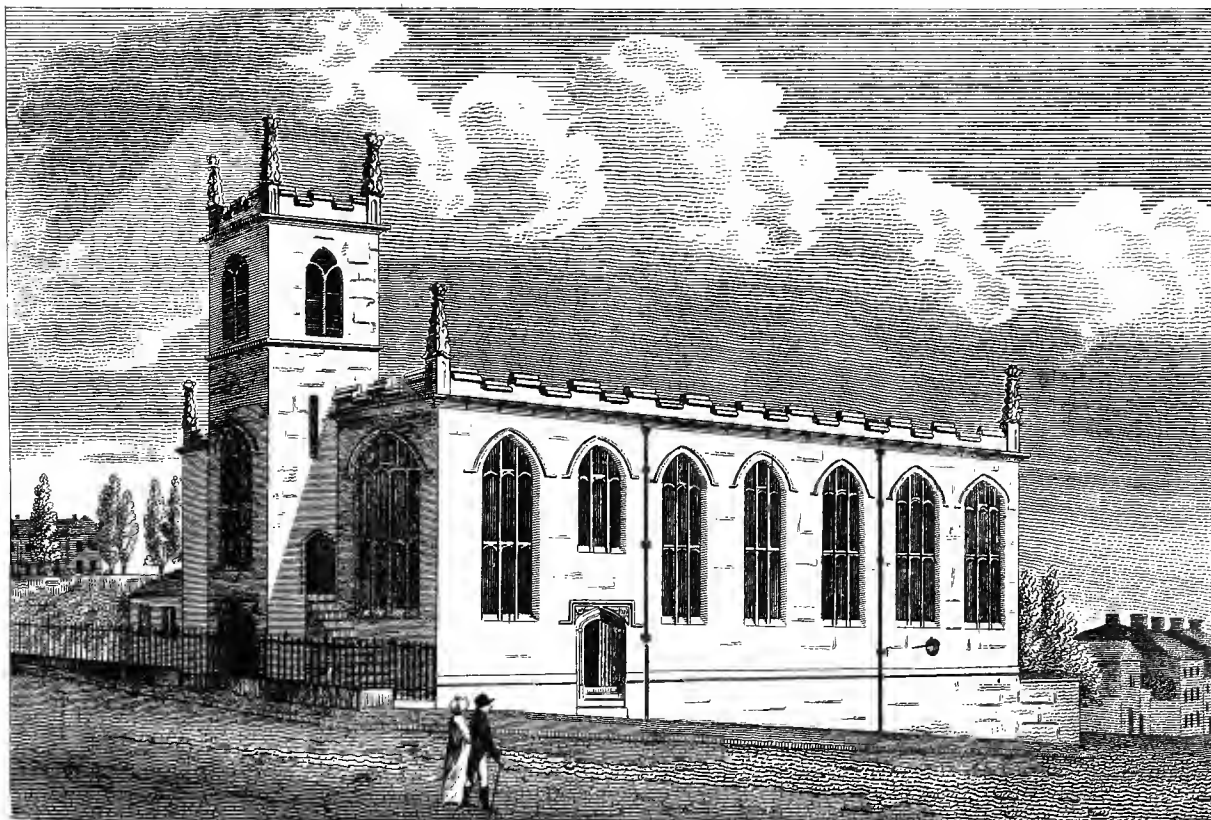
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**WE** are now entering among the hallowed and sepulchral monuments of the dead, where solemn silence sits enthroned in awful majesty, undisturbed in his empire of eternal night, save by the admission of new tenantry, or when a bone, once sportive in the giddy circles of life, drops from its socket. Here, at every step, we tread upon the ashes of the departed, once, like ourselves, endued with the passions and the breath of life ; and who now mingle in uninterrupted repose. Here the young, the old, the beautiful, the decrepid, the ostentatious, the rich, and the poor, unite their mouldering bones without a murmur or a sigh. Here the children of industry have laid down their implements, the tyrant his rod, the slave has cast off his galling chains ; and the coquette has closed her captivating eyes.

### *ST. MARY'S CHURCH,*

Stands upon the most elevated spot in the town, it being twenty-three yards above the level of the meadows. The form of the building is collegiate ; and its lofty square tower presents a most majestic appearance, impressing the mind of the beholder with the solemnity of the occasion for which temples of religion were erected. In the steeple are ten fine musical bells, whose vibrating and transpiercing melody diversly impresses the mind ; sometimes hailing the return of peace ; sometimes sounding the knell of departed thousands who have bled in the field of victory ; and at other times informing us, by a solemn and heavy peal, that the trials are at hand of those unfortunate

ST JAMES'S CHURCH



ST MARY'S CHURCH.

*Wilkins Sc Nottingham*





mortals who are strongly suspected of having violated the laws of our country. The following are the dates of these bells:—The 1st and 2d were hung preparative to the rejoicings at the coronation of George the Third, in 1761; and the 3d and 4th were cast and hung the preceding year. The 5th is dated 1699; the 6th 1613; the 7th 1690; the 8th 1605; the 9th 1695; and the 10th in 1637. This bell, however, was broken in 1757, and was re-cast the same year by Mr. Hedderley of this town.

The dimensions of this church are, in the inside, from east to west, 216 feet; from south to north, at the west end, 67 feet; in the centre 97 feet, and the chancel 29 feet. The height of the steeple is 126 feet; and that of the aisles 60 feet.

Thoroton speaks of our churches in the following words:—"The vicarage of St. Marie was twenty marks, and so was the rectory of St. Peter; and the rectory of St. Nicholas ten marks when the Prior of Lenton was patron: St. Marie's is now £10 5s. value in the King's books, and the Marquis of Dorchester is patron. St. Peter's £8 8s. 6d. and the King patron, as he is also of St. Nicholas, which is but £2 16s. 8d. value." Ecton in 1723 states, St. Mary's to be £10 5s. in the King's books, and £1 0s. 6d. yearly tenths; St. Peter's £8 7s. 6d. in the King's book, and £12 19s. yearly value; and St. Nicholas' £2 16s. 8d. in the King's book, and £15 7s. 9d. yearly value; the two latter being discharged from paying the yearly tenths on account of the smallness of their income; and are therefore entitled to Queen Ann's bounty.\*

Deering was of opinion that St. Mary's church is of Saxon architecture; and he rested that opinion on the following absurd story—A workman that was employed in rebuilding the west end, in 1726, told him, that he found a date cut in the end of a beam, *which he did not pretend to remember; but was sure that at that time, it proved the church to be eleven hundred years old.* A man who had found a date of eleven hundred years standing, and that was able to decipher it, in the mutilated state it must be in on the end of a beam, must be possessed of some little erudition; and consequently would have noted down the figures. The singularity of the circumstance too, would have become a subject of conversation and inquiry among the curious of the day; but nothing of this kind took place.

The venerable *Bede*, the father of British history, and who was a bishop, speaks thus on the subject of churches. "There was a time when there was not a stone church in the whole land, but the custom was to build them all of wood. Finan, the second bishop of Holy-island, or Lindisfarn in Northumberland, built a church there, A. D. 152, for a cathedral, which was not of stone, but of wood, and covered with reeds; and so it continued to Eadbert's time, the seventh bishop." The account of Deering's *workman* makes the building of St. Mary's church to have taken place as early as the year 626; whereas we are informed by William of Malmesbury, that

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\* In 1535, a valuation was taken of all church dignities, benefices, and all other ecclesiastical preferments throughout the kingdom, according to the best documents which could be procured; and such valuation is called *The King's Books*. In 1538, all vicarages, not exceeding ten pounds in yearly value; and all rectories, not exceeding ten marks, according to the above valuation, were exempted by act of parliament from paying the *first fruits*. And, in 1707, all livings were discharged from paying the *yearly tenths*, whose annual incomes were less than fifty pounds; consequently St. Mary's benefice in this town was considered above that value at that time, as it is not in the *discharged list*. The first year's income of a benefice was paid by the incumbent to the king, and was called the *first fruits*, and one-tenth of such income, which is annually paid to the same quarter, is called *yearly tenths*.

about the year 974, King Edgar issued large sums from his treasury, (probably at the instigation of Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury, under whose influence the king was guided) for repairing places of public worship, which were then built of wood, and covered with shingles, and were so rotten as not to admit of public worship being performed in them.

That a church stood on the site of the present one, at the time of the conquest, or that one was erected shortly after that event, is certain, since we find all the three churches named in the foundation deed of the priory of Lenton, in the reign of Henry the First; and that the present church was built before the reformation is also certain, as that kind of architecture, which is unmeaningly called Gothic, and of which style this church originally wholly consisted, went out of fashion as soon as monastic gloom was dissipated; and it is equally certain that it was not built before the middle of the twelfth century, as this style of architecture was not introduced into England before that time; and, if Deering had studied the science ever so little, instead of attending to the tales of superannuated old men, he would not have led so many of his readers astray respecting the age of this church. The British Encyclopedia states, "It may be observed, that antecedent to this period, neither tabernacles nor niches with canopies, statues in whole relief, pinnacles, pediments, or spires, nor any tracery in the vaultings were used; but at this time, or soon after, these began to obtain." But, to set the question at rest, we will call in the aid of John Leland, antiquary to Henry the Eighth, who visited this town about the year 1540. He says, "there be three parochie chirches (St. Mary, St. Peter, St. Nicholas,) *but the chirch of St. Mary is excellent, new, and uniforme yn work.*" From the foregoing observations, and the positive declaration of Leland, the conclusion is, that this church was built upon the site of an old one by Richard the Third, who was ever partial to this town; or by Henry the Seventh, or, possibly it was began by the former and completed by the latter; but, that it was finished after the union of the Roses is as clear as noon-day; for, in the fluting of the pediment of the southern porch are two red roses and two white ones, in a good state of preservation; in the centre of the pediment is a crosslet decorated with red and white roses; and at the top of the arch over the porch hang seven other roses, but in so mutilated a state, that the distinction of the red and white ones is scarcely perceptible. Were it possible to suppose, that any further proof was wanting to refute the tale of Deering's *workman*, it might be found in this; namely, public buildings of Saxon architecture consisted of *very thick and heavy walls*; whereas, considering the magnitude of the edifice we are speaking of, *the walls are thin and light.*

In 1726, the west end was rebuilt, when the uniformity and beauty of the whole were destroyed, by the *Doric order* being substituted for the *Gothic style*; and instead of the lofty pinnacles, which used to adorn its crown, a Grecian urn was substituted. In 1707, a clock, made by one Rowe of Epperstone, was put up, the dial of which faced the south; but, in 1807, the dial was taken down, and, the clock being found to be nearly worn out, a new one was made by Thomas Hardy, of this town, for which he received £126, and it was put up in February, 1810; and two dials were affixed to the tower, one facing the east and the other the west.

The exterior of this noble and hallowed fabric displays the direful effects of the relentless tooth of time: it is frequently undergoing repairs; and must continue to do so, otherwise, before many

more ages have passed away, its lofty walls will come tumbling to the ground. Much blame is attachable to some of the foregone churchwardens, for having repairs done with such perishable stone ; as the south side, west of the aisle, which was new faced in 1761, and several other parts, recently repaired, fully testify. The staircase to the belfry, which was rebuilt in 1811, is an exception to this rule of wasteful expenditure of the parish money.

The church-yard is now walled round, and encircled, at the top of the walls, with cast-iron palisades, with a gate at each corner, which is open only during divine service, and when other business is doing. Perhaps money was never expended about the church with more propriety than what was applied to this purpose ; for, it is certainly most disgraceful to civilized society for those places which are set apart as repositories of human ashes to be converted into theatres of lewdness, gambols, and dissipation. The uncultivated Indian views with reverential awe the spot which contains the bones of his forefathers ; then let us blush at the idea of being outdone by him in veneration for the dead.

The work of properly inclosing the churchyard was begun in 1792, and was completed in 1807. In the former year it was found necessary to widen the street on the south side of the churchyard, for which purpose part of the latter was cut away, when a chantry-house, belonging to the Bridge Estate, and several little dwellings belonging to the vicarage were taken down ; they standing upon part of the ground which was necessary to be removed\*. While this work was in progress a remarkable circumstance came to light, which, from its forming a curious trait in natural history, merits insertion. The churchyard being higher than the road, and the old wall being removed, a heavy shower of rain washed the earth from several coffins ; among which was one containing the remains of a Mr. William Moore, who once kept the Black Swan public-house on the north side of the High-pavement, and who had been buried twelve years. From the age of twenty-two an enlargement appeared on one side of his body, and it continued to grow to the day of his death, which happened at the age of seventy ; and he frequently told his friends, that he felt a hard substance concreting within him, which circumstance was injudiciously omitted to be inquired into when he died. On the exposure of his bones, in the rotten shell which had contained them, a substance, much resembling pumice stone, and as large as an ox's liver, was found, which was broken in pieces, and several parts of it were preserved by the curious. It is worthy of remark, that his ribs were much more bowed on the side in which this concretion grew, than they were on the other.

There are two burying grounds, independent of the churchyard, one on the north and the other on the south side of Barker-gate. A plot of ground between Bellar-gate and Carter-gate was also bought for the same purpose, in 1814, at an expense of eight shillings a yard.

In the interior of this church were the chantries of St. Mary, St. James, and one which took its name from one Amyas, who was mayor in 1334. There were likewise two chapels and a Guild, or Fraternity of six priests ; the former being dedicated to All-saints and the Virgin Mary, and the latter to the Holy Trinity ; and the house belonging to these priests, called Trinity House,

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\* The vicar receives forty shillings a year from the parish as a remuneration ; but I do not find any thing paid to the Corporation.

according to the best information I am in possession of, stood where now stands the coach-house of Charles Mellor, Esq. at the east end of his mansion, which is facing the south end of St. Mary's-gate. The chapel of All Saints was on the north side of the church, and was the property of the ancient family of Plumptres, from the 23d of Henry the Seventh, about which time, it is very probable, it was built\* : here many of that ancient family lie interred. In the east corner is a marble monument to the memory of Henry, son of John Plumptre, Esq., with the family arms engraven over it : he was born July 22d, 1708, and died January 3d, 1718. The inscription speaks highly of his learning and the powers of his mind. Near to the foregoing is an alabaster tomb, on which lies the figure of a man in a gown with wide sleeves, and his hands in a praying posture, without an idea being left of whom it is intended to represent. It is extremely defaced, as much from children being shamefully permitted to exercise their mischievous arts upon it, as from the mutilating hand of time, though it has the appearance of being very ancient. At the west end of this chapel is a marble monument to the memory of Henry Plumptre, Esq. and Joice, his wife, with a Latin inscription to each ; the former died December the 29th, 1693, and the latter November the 8th, 1708.

On the south side, and opposite the chapel of all All Saints, is that dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which, till the year 1804, contained the tombs of the first and second Earls of Clare : that of the first was dated 1637, and the other 1665 : the inscriptions upon them are preserved on a handsome mural monument erected in their stead. In this chapel too lies a mutilated alabaster figure, without any inscription.

On a pillar in the middle aisle is fixed a marble monument to the memory of William Flamstead, gent. who died in 1653 ; and according to the inscription, was town clerk and steward of Nottingham. In this aisle and in the body of the church are many gravestones, which were once ornamented with brass plates ; but which, as Deering informs us, were torn off by some of the contentious combatants in the time of Charles the First. What a pitiful species of warfare was this !

In the Chancel a number of mural monuments present themselves to the observer's notice. On the south side is one to the memory of Lady Mary Brabazon, who departed this life the 2d January, 1737, and lies here interred by the side of her father, the Right Honorable Chambre, Earl of Meath, who died the 1st of April, 1715. Near the above is one to the memory of the Rev. Dr. Haines, late vicar of this parish, who paid nature's great debt on the 27th of April, 1806, at the age of 71. Though his mind was not expanded by the principles of philosophy, or by deep research into the liberal notions of theology, yet his conduct was peaceable, tolerant, and friendly ; and many poor families had to regret his death ; for many were partly fed by his private bounty ; nor did he vex his parishioners by a scrupulous exaction of tithes.

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\* In the year 1738, the wainseating of this chapel was taken down by one Stocks, a joiner, who converted a piece of it into the door of a corner cupboard, which was overspread with a deeply engraven thistle in full bloom, the royal arms of Scotland. Probably this was put up in honor of James the First when he visited this town. The cupboard is still in being, and the thistle is unimpaired ; the author having examined it previous to the writing of this note

On the north side of the chancel, and facing the communion table, is a handsome monument, which bespeaks the good deeds of Samuel Heywood, attorney-at-law, who died in 1789, aged 34. Those who still remember him, speak of him as forming one of those rare exceptions of uprightness, which sometimes give lustre to the profession of the law. On the opposite side is one to the memory of Thomas Newdigate, Esq. third son of Sir Richard Newdigate, of Arbury in the county of Warwick, serjeant-at-law, who departed this life the 24th of January 1722, aged 74. And near to it is one to the memory of Scroop Berdmore, D. D. vicar of this parish, who departed this life at the age of 60, in 1770; and likewise one to the memory of his brother, who acquired an ample fortune by the profession of a dentist; and who died in 1785, aged 45.

The Altar-piece is a handsome piece of cabinet work; and was erected in 1727. In 1800, the King's Arms were painted in a pompous manner over the vestry door, principally at the instigation of a man, whose whole conduct in life has been a manifestation of his, *neither fearing God, nor honoring the King*; but whose name shall not disgrace these pages. In this place Deering fancied he discovered the representation of St. Christopher, of a gigantic size: he might as well have supposed the almost obliterated figure to have been intended as a representation of *Neptune*, as he tells us that ships and water appeared about his feet. It seems, from what our author says to have been a wretched *daubing*, which ought to have excited his laughter, rather than his curiosity. In the north window of the chancel, the figure of St. Andrew, in stained glass, appears in all its original beauty; and which is protected, on the outside, by a piece of wirework against the destructive hand of folly.

In the west end, or ante-church, as it is usually called, are likewise many mural monuments. One, over the entrance from the southern porch, is sacred to the memory of John Morris, gent. who died in 1798. He acquired a liberal fortune in the hosiery business; principally, however, by obtaining a patent for the manufacturing of mits, and which will be *particularly* noticed under the head, *Trade*. On the same side is one to the memory of the Rev. Joseph Malbon, curate of this parish, who died at the age of 30, in 1777. Near to the last is one to the memory of Laurence Whitaker, who departed this life in 1769. On the north side, one remembers Samuel Wright, merchant of this town, who died in 1753, aged 56. And beneath it is one which informs us that Ichabod Wright, Esq. died in 1777, aged 74; and that Elizabeth, his wife, aged 82, died in 1782. Near to this place is one to the memory of Francis Hall, Gent. who died at the advanced age of 85, in 1801. Further to the west, is one sacred to the memory of Philip Strelly, and Elizabeth, his sister; the former died in 1768; and the latter, who was the last branch of the family, in 1786. More westwards still, is one to the memory of Robert Wright, who departed this life in 1799, at the age of 74. He was an eminent hosier in this town, by which business he acquired a handsome fortune. Edmund Wright, Esq. his son and successor in business, is well known for his wealth; but much more so for his benevolence to the poor. From his door the needy never go away empty; nor does the tear of distress ever fall in his presence in vain.

At the west end is a small mural monument to the memory of Bath Williams, Esq. lieutenant colonel of marines, who, after having endured forty years' service in various parts of the world, had the misfortune to be drowned in the Trent, in 1799, and at the age of 68.

It appears, from what the anonymous author, quoted by Deering, says, that there were organs in this church in the early part of the seventeenth century; but a churchwarden, about that time, made bold to sell the pipes, and leave the case empty, in which state it remained till about the year 1704, when the parishioners subscribed for a new set of pipes. These in their turn became very much out of condition, and were put into a state of complete repair in 1742, at the expense of the parish at large. In 1777 this organ was disposed of, and a most excellent new one was erected by the celebrated Snetzler. The instrument is supported behind the Quire by two Tuscan columns, over which David is painted as playing on his harp.—A glass partition was run across the church, at the back of the Quire, in 1798; and, in 1808, a new timepiece was placed in front of the loft.

The Marquis of Dorchester had the presentation of this vicarage in 1708; the Duke of Kingston, in 1722; the Archbishop of York, as the Duke's representative, in 1730; and, at the present time it is possessed by Earl Manvers.

The present vicarage house, which stands facing the south-east corner of the churchyard, was built on the site of an old one in 1653, for the accommodation of Mr. Whitelock, and his friend and companion in prosperity and adversity, Mr. Reynolds, who came here as minister and lecturer, on condition of each receiving sixty pounds per annum, while single; and an hundred pounds if they entered into the marriage state. The parish gave £300 towards the building of the house; the corporation gave the timber; and the two gentlemen paid the rest of the expense. In 1808, Dr. Bristow, the then incumbent, and successor to Dr. Haines, commenced an action at law against Mrs. Haines to recover damages, for her late husband's not having kept the house in a proper state of repair. It was a very unpopular proceeding; and, though he laid the damages very high, he obtained only £70. He, however, immediately set about having the front new modelled and stuccoed; and the whole interior also was put into a state of good repair.

#### *LIST OF THE VICARS OF ST. MARY'S PARISH.*

The Years denote their Entrance into Office.

1290 Johannes de Ely	1401 Richardus de Chilwell	1617 Radulfus Hansby
1304 Robertus de Dalby	1409 Willielmus Ode	1635 Edmundus Laycock
1313 Henricus de parva Haly	1447 Willielmus Wright	1662 Georgius Masterson
1317 Johannes de Ludham	1461 Johannes Hurt	1686 Samuel Crobrow, S. T. P.
1322 Joh. ff. Wittl Coryn	1476 Thomas Turner	1690 Benjamin Carnfield, A. M.
1347 Johannes de Launde	1498 Johaunes Greve	1693 Vicarage vacant
1347 Robert de Wakebridge	1499 Simon Yates	1694 Tymothy Carrol, A. M.
1348 Richard de Radclyffe	1504 Richard Travenor	1698 Edwardus Clarke, A. M.
1349 Roger de Nyddingworth	1534 Richard Matthew	1708 Samuel Berdmore, A. M.
1349 Richard de Swanynghon	1535 Richard Wylde	1723 Johannes Disney, A. M.
1351 Thomas de Pascayl	1554 Oliverus Hawood	1730 Thomas Berdmore, A. M.
1357 Johannes Lorimer	1568 Johannes Lowthe	1743 Scroop Berdmore, S. T. P.
1360 Johannes de Hoveden	1572 Willielmus Underue	1770 Nathan Haines, D. D.
1364 Johannes de Stapleford	1578 Robertus Aldridge	1806 John Bristow, D. D.
1371 Willielmus de Sandyaere	1616 Oliverius Wytherington	1810 George Hutchinson, M. A.
1380 Robertus de Retford	1616 Johannes Tolson	

The Rev. Mr. Whitelock was presented in 1651; but, along with his friend Mr. Reynolds, was driven away by the operation of the Seven Mile Act, soon after the restoration, when they found an asylum in the family of the Musterses, at Colwick.

Two churchwardens, and two assistants, or sidesmen, manage the temporal affairs of this church, the churchwarden elect chusing his own sidesman previous to his being sworn into office. The churchwardens serve two years; the vicar and the housekeepers chusing one alternately; and the senior being accountant churchwarden for the year. The following table of receipts and disbursements for the year, beginning at Easter, 1806, as furnished by Mr. William Kelk, churchwarden at the time, will give the reader a clear idea of the internal management of the church affairs.

RECEIVED.	£.	s.	d.
Weighing machine - - - - -	21	8	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Achan's charity - - - - -	2	10	0
For old iron - - - - -	0	15	3
Rent of Mrs. Haines - - - - -	4	0	0
Cooper's dividend - - - - -	17	3	7
Burgesses' pence - - - - -	0	5	5
For five hour bells - - - - -	2	0	0
For burial in the church - - - - -	0	6	8
For sounding board - - - - -	0	10	6
Rent of Mr. Dunn - - - - -	5	0	0
	53	19	11 $\frac{1}{4}$

PAID.	£.	s.	d.
Mr. Parker's annuity - - - - -	10	4	0
Ringers one year's salary - - - - -	30	11	0
Widdowson for cleaning steps ditto - - - - -	0	13	3
Loft tenders, &c. ditto - - - - -	6	12	9
Communion plate cleaning - - - - -	0	3	9
Johnson, sexton, one year's bills - - - - -	25	5	1
Organ blower, one year - - - - -	2	0	0
Cook, glazier, for work done from June, 1804, to April, 1805 - - - - -	14	13	0
Mr. Goody for bars for the organ - - - - -	0	12	6
Repairing the prayer-book - - - - -	0	3	0
Mr. Severn for wine - - - - -	7	15	0
Mr. Jalland for black cloth - - - - -	4	5	0
Mr. Barasdale for new seats - - - - -	3	1	0
Assessment book making - - - - -	1	8	0
Expenses at the confirmation - - - - -	3	12	11
Mr. Smart for mats - - - - -	2	0	0
Ale for glaziers, &c. - - - - -	1	17	6
Mr. Burden for repairing seats - - - - -	0	6	6
	115	4	3

RECEIVED.	£.	s.	d.
Brought up - - - - -	53	19	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Rent of Mrs. Lart - - - - -	6	0	6
Manner's charity - - - - -	2	10	0
Cash from the late churchwardens - - - - -	127	17	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Assessments for the last year - - - - -	29	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Amount of an assessment book - - - - -	403	2	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Subscription for fencing the churchyard - - - - -	199	3	8
Land sold for ditto - - - - -	94	0	0
Rent of ditto - - - - -	1	0	0
	916	14	7 $\frac{1}{4}$

PAID.	£.	s.	d.
Brought up - - - - -	115	14	3
Mr. Dawson for timber - - - - -	0	5	6
Mr. Lee for teaching singers - - - - -	4	0	0
Widows' pence, Easter and Christmas - - - - -	2	7	6
Mr. Pearson, organist, one year - - - - -	10	10	0
Mr. Cook, glazier - - - - -	31	0	0
Apparitor's bill - - - - -	0	10	11
E. Smith for washing surplices - - - - -	1	11	6
Mr. Wilson, assisting to repair the organ - - - - -	0	15	0
Mr. Torr, for work done in 1804 - - - - -	0	4	0
Mr. Rouse for repairing the organ - - - - -	8	8	0
Postage (Achan's charity) - - - - -	0	0	8
Mrs. Fry, for ale - - - - -	0	17	9
Christmas box for singers - - - - -	1	1	0
Mr. Greasley, glazier - - - - -	0	7	4
Mr. Markland for wine - - - - -	9	4	0
Mr. Stainrod for work - - - - -	9	17	0
Mr. Brothers for ditto - - - - -	20	16	6
	217	0	11

<i>PAID.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Brought over - - - - -	217	0	11
Mr. Cooper for repairing the engine	3	13	7
Mr. Hough for writing - - - -	6	15	7
Messrs. Burbage and Co. for printing	1	7	10
Mr. Tupman for ditto - - - -	6	2	0
Mr. Huthwaite for wine - - - -	4	12	0
Mr. Holmes for ditto - - - -	4	10	0
Mr. Daykin for work done in 1805	76	13	6
Candles for singers - - - -	0	2	4
Mr. Frost, whitesmith - - - -	0	6	0
Mrs. Caunt, bread for Manner's charity	2	12	0
For collecting - - - - -	1	1	6
Sidesmen's allowance - - - -	4	4	0
Rev. J. Bristow for houses that stood in the church-yard - - - -	2	0	0
Mr. Nall for ale - - - - -	0	1	6
Watts for dressing bricks - - - -	0	3	9
Mr. Twells for arbitration and bonds for Mrs. Lart's house, one-third part	11	1	6
Mr. Dodd for work in 1799 - - -	30	0	0
Apparitor's bill, 1807 - - - -	0	17	1
	<u>373</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>

<i>RECEIVED.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Fines from victuallers for suffering tippling on the sabbath - - - -	4	0	0
From tradesmen for trespassing on ditto - - - - -	0	16	8
For a watchman being drunk on duty	0	5	0
For carriages travelling on the sabbath	1	7	4
	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>

<i>PAID.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Brought up - - - - -	373	5	1
Mr. Stretton for plans, &c. - - -	4	4	0
Mr. Ashwell for iron railing - - -	154	19	0
For ditto - - - - -	36	6	8
Mr. Stretton for church-yard wall -	253	3	0
To ditto for other work in part - -	14	13	6
Books and paper - - - - -	0	2	6
Three lb. clover seed - - - - -	0	3	0
Mr. Ely for ale - - - - -	2	2	0
For repairing the burying ground wall in Barker-gate - - - - -	13	18	0
Mr. Elliott for work at the Pilcher- gate hospital - - - - -	0	3	0
Mr. Cook, glazier - - - - -	2	11	0
Assessments turned over to Mr. Tollington - - - - -	29	12	10½
Mr. Balguy's opinion at the election for Sexton - - - - -	8	8	0
Cash paid to Mr. Tollinton - - -	22	18	0
Bad money - - - - -	0	5	0
	<u>916</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0</u>

<i>PAID.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Expenses at two constable meetings	1	12	0
For warning in constables, delivering cautions, and posting up tables of penalties - - - - -	0	15	6
Five poor families relieved - - -	0	13	4
Fifteen poor families relieved, as recom- mended by the constables - - -	1	15	0
Mr. Sutton, for 300 addresses - -	1	4	0
Mr. Dunn, for books on the sabbath	0	9	0
In hand, paid to Mr. Tollinton - -	0	0	2
	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>

To the foregoing, the annexed note, will be a good accompaniment, on the authenticity of which, the reader may place full reliance.\*

\* "A Terrier containing an account of the houses, glebe lands, tythes, stipendiary payments, and all other ecclesiastical dues and profits whatsoever, belonging to the vicarage of St. Mary, in Nottingham, delivered at the Primary Court of Corrections of the Most Reverend Father in God, Matthew, by Divine Providence, Lord Archbishop of York, in the year of our Lord 1748.

"1. Imprimis. The Vicarage house and garden thereto belonging, situate and being in a place in the town of Nottingham, called "Maylin-hill.



At Easter, 1808, four regular overseers were appointed for this parish; till which time only two had been chosen; but, so vastly had the business thereof increased, that two were found

" 2. Item. About one acre of land in the Sandfield, butting towards the park pales on the south, Mr. Cole's land on the west, the highway on the north, Mr. Plumptre's land on the east. In 1726, in the occupation of Mr. Thomas Hawksley, now of Mr. George Greasley.

" 3. Item. Above one acre of land in the Sandfield, one end butting towards the highway leading to the Sandhills on the south, the other end towards Lark-dale, Mr. Eggington's land on the east, north and west. In 1726, in the occupation of Mr. Thomas Lamb, now of the same or his undertenant.

" 4. Item. About half an acre of land called the Harp in the Sandfield, butting on Mr. Sulley's land towards the north, Mr. Flemming's land on the west and south, Mr. Ward's land on the east. In 1726, in the occupation of Nicholas Richardson, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 5. Item. About three roods of land in the Sandfield, butting on the highway coming down to the Sheep-land, or Sheep-lane, on the east, Mr. Ralph Edge's land on the south, Mr. James Clayton's land on the west, charity land belonging to Mansfield, (let to Mr. Newham) on the north. In 1726, in occupation of Nicholas Richardson, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 6. Item. About one acre of land in the Sandfield, in the road to Lark-dale and Bowling-alley-house, Mr. Samuel Wyer's land towards the west, Mr. Potter's land towards the north end, Mr. Abel Smith's land towards the east, Miss Hinkley's land, (Mr. Alderman Huthwaite tenant,) towards the south end. In 1726, in occupation of ———, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 7. Item. About one acre and one rood of land in the Sandfield, near Lark-dale, Mr. Sherwin's land on the south, lands belonging to Mr. Smith and the Free-school on the east, Mr. James Clayton's land on the north, Mr. Wylde's land, (Stephen Dodd tenant,) on the west. In 1726, in occupation of ———, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 8. Item. About one acre of land in the Clayfield, butting upon the Beck-bleach-house, since called Beck-barn, Mr. Skinner Newham's land on the south, the Beck on the east end, land belonging to the Corporation on the north, George Dodd's land (late Mr. Grave's) on the west end. In 1726, in occupation of Geoffrey Nixon, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 9. Item. Two leys containing about one acre in the Clayfield upon Gold's-wung, Mr. Hall's land on the east, Mr. Key's land on the south and west, Mr. Trentham's land on the north. In 1726, in occupation of Geoffrey Nixon, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 10. Item. One land in the Clayfield near Broad-oak Pool, David Coulston's land on the east, Charity land belonging to Mansfield, (let to Mr. Tepott,) on the south end, land belonging to the Corporation on the west, Mr. Plumptre's land on the north end. In 1726 in occupation of Geoffrey Nixon, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 11. Item. One land containing near one acre in the Clayfield near the Long-hedge, the Meadow-platt on the south, lands of Mr. Thomas Smith's heir, and of Mr. Sherwin's on the east, Mr. Plumptre's land on the north, Mr. Robert Thorpe's land on the west. In 1726, in occupation of Geoffrey Nixon, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 12. Item. A close or garden on the backside of Carter-gate, butting on Snenton-close on the east, a garden of the late Mr. Drewry's on the south, Lord Chesterfield's land on the north. In 1726, in occupation of Geoffrey Nixon, now of Mrs. Nixon, or her undertenant.

" 13. Item. About one acre of land in the Clayfield near Fox-lane end, the highway on the end towards the west, Miss Hinkley's land on the end towards the east, Mr. Gregory's land towards the south, land belonging to the Corporation on the north. In 1726, in occupation of Bartholomew Bartoo, Esq. now of Mr. Charles Sulley.

" 14. Item. About three roods of land in the Clayfield, butting on the Beck-dike, and Mr. Plumptre's land on the west, Mr. William Johnson's land, (late Mr. Millward's,) on the north, Mr. Morris's land on the east, land belonging to the Corporation on the south. In 1743, in occupation of William Hutchinson, now of Mr. John Nix.

" 15. Item. About two acres of land in the Clayfield upon Crowhill-sands, of Mrs. Plumptre's, and of Mr. William Johnson's on the east, Mr. Jebb's land on the north, a narrow ley late belonging to Lady Morpeth, now to Mr. William Jackson, on the west, Mr. Hall's land on the south. In 1743, in occupation of William Hutchinson, now of Mr. John Nix.

" 16. Item. About one acre of land in the Clayfield at the Woodland, or Wood-lane end, the pinder's fee and the Beck on the east end, the pinder's fee on west end, a close belonging to the Corporation on the north, Mr. Plumptre's land on the south. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. William Jackson, now of his son Mr. William Jackson.

" 17. Item. About one acre of land in the Clayfield, near Darma Meadow-plat, a close of Mr. Plumptre's on the east, and the land of ——— Walters, Esq. late Mr. Smith's, on the west, Mr. Thorpe's land on the north, lands of Mr. Thomas Smith's heirs, and part of the Glebe on the south. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. William Jackson, now of his son Mr. William Jackson.

" 18. Item. About one acre of land in the Clayfield on the east side of the Beck, at some distance the land of the late Mr. William Thorpe, (formerly Burley's Furlong,) on the west, Mr. William Jackson's land on the east, Mr. Plumptre's land on the north and south. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. William Jackson, now of his son Mr. William Jackson.

inadequate to its performance. And, as we are now quitting this parish, as a distinctive part of the town, the following short account of the assessments collected for the maintenance of the poor

" 19. Item. Two leys containing about one acre of land in the Clayfield, butting on the Beck near the new spring, the Beck on the east, Mr. Robert Thorpe's land on the south, Mrs. Hall's land on the west, Mr. James Clayton's land on the north. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Lamb, now of the same or his undertenant.

" 20. Item. One land containing about three roods in the Clayfield near the gallows, the highway to the gallows on the west, Mr. Smith's land on the south, Mr. Plumptre's land on the north, land belonging to the Corporation on the east. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Lamb, now of the same or his undertenant.

" 21. Item. Three or four short cuts containing about half an acre of land in Darma Meadow-plat in the Clayfield, the Beck-dike on the south, Mr. Plumptre's land on the east and north, the lands of Mr. Smith's heirs on the west. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Lamb, now of the same.

" 22. Item. One ley containing about three roods of land in the meadow near Hooper's Sconce, the Leen and Mr. Drewry's Pogle on the north, Mr. Charles Drewry's land on the east, Mr. Abel Smith's land on the west, the Pinder's fee on the south. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Lamb, now of the same or his undertenant.

" 23. Item. One other ley containing about half an acre of land in the meadow near Hooper's Sconce, the Pinder's Fee on the north, the little Ryehill Dike and Mr. Plumptre's land, (Winrow tenant,) on the east, Mr. Hind's land on the west, Mr. Plumptre's land, (Winrow tenant) on the south. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Lamb, now of the same or his undertenant.

" 24. Item. About one acre and a half of land in the meadow near the King's meadows, Mr. Abel Smith's land on the South-bill closes, (Harrison tenant,) on the west, Mr. Robert Millar's land, (Thomas Boot tenant,) on the north, lands of Mr. Ralph Edge and of Mr. Abel Smith on the east. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Lamb, now of the same or his undertenant.

" 25. Item. About three roods of land in the meadows upon the great Rye-hills, butting upon the Bull-piece, on the north Mr. Plumptre's land, on the south Mr. Farr's land, (late Mr. Drury's) on the east, Mr. Featherston's land on the west. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. John White, now of his son Mr. William White.

" 26. Item. One ley containing about one acre of land in the meadows upon the Great Ryehills, butting upon the Bull-piece on the north, Mr. Plumptre's land on the south, Mr. Abel Smith's land, (late Mr. Greave's) on the west, land belonging to the Charity School on the east. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Jalland, now of Mr. Thomas Collin.

" 27. Item. One ley containing about one acre of land in the meadows upon the Great Ryehills, butting upon the Bull-piece on the north, the Pinder's Fee on the south, Mr. Plumptre's land on the west, Mr. Abel Smith's land, (late Mr. Greave's) on the east. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Jalland, now of Mr. Thomas Collin.

" 28. Item. One ley containing about one acre of land in the meadow upon the Ryehills, causeway pool and Mr. Robert Milner's land on the north, the Pinder's Fee on the west, Mr. Plumptre's land on the east and south. In 1726, in occupation of Mr. Thomas Jalland, now of Mr. Thomas Collin.

" 29. Item. A piece of land supposed to be by the Leen side near the King's Meadows leading into the Park-row, and for some time past, in the occupation of his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, for which his Grace pays to the vicar thirty shillings per annum.

" 30. Item. The church-yard which had a house standing thereon formerly, but it was taken down some years ago to enlarge the place for burials, now the churchwardens pay to the vicar the yearly rent of forty shillings in consideration of the said house.\*

" 31. Item. Tythe of the Leen mill, being twenty shillings payable at Easter.

" 32. Item. Tythe of Nether Trent Close.

" 33. Item. Tythe of all Tofts and Crofts.

" 34. Item. Tythe bread of every baker of the parish, viz. a halfpenny loaf every Saturday.

" 35. Item. Tythe pigs, potatoes, flax, and all other small thythes.

" 36. Item. Tythe of all gardens occupied by gardeners at two shillings in the pound rent.

" 37. Item. For all sheep that go in the fields from Michaelmas to Martinmas at fourpence per score.

" 38. Item. Twenty shillings per annum for a sermon upon the subject of christian love and charity, to be preached yearly on Good Friday, in the afternoon, left by the will of Alderman Parker.

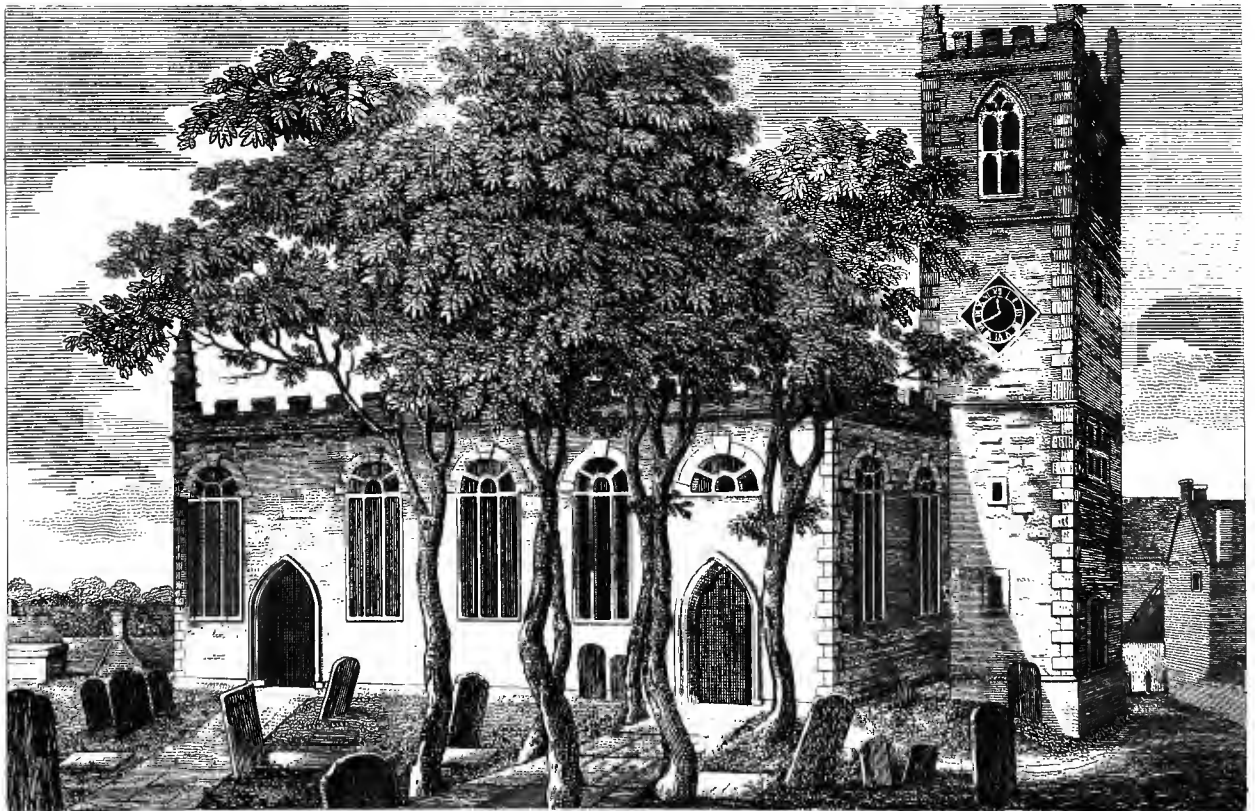
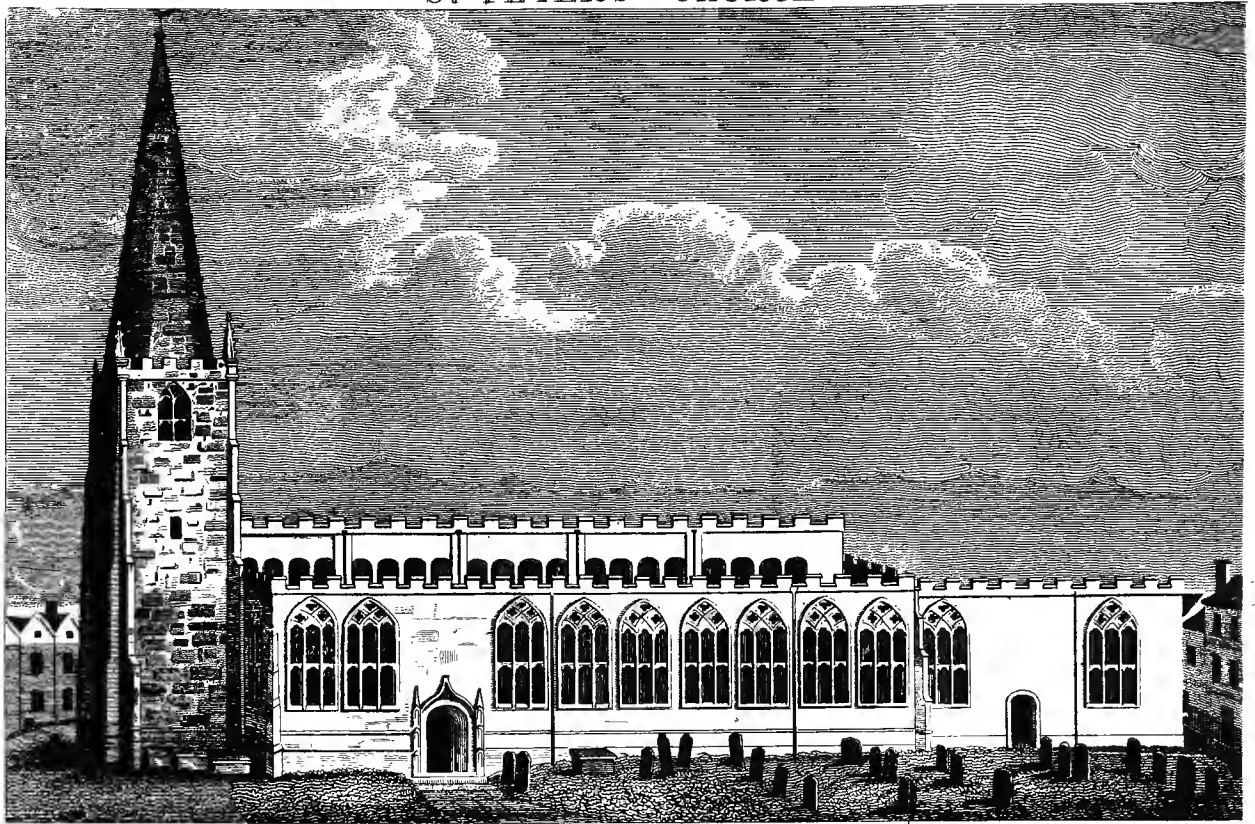
" 39. Item. Twenty shillings per annum for two sermons upon charity, to be preached yearly, the one on the Sunday before Whitsunday, the other on the Sunday before Christmas-day, left by the will of Alderman Staples.

" 40. Item. Ten shillings per annum for a sermon to be preached yearly upon the day of the restoration of King Charles the Second, left by the will of Mr. William Thorpe Clerk, late vicar of Blidworth.

" 41. Item. Surplice fees (viz.) for every burial in the church-yard one shilling, in the church two shillings, in the chancel two shillings. \* I conceive this to have been the Trinity-house; and, tradition informs us, that it stood in the north-west corner of the church-yard.



ST PETER'S CHURCH.



ST NICHOLAS'S CHURCH.

may not be thought unworthy of observation ; being partly obtained from the parish records in the vestry, and partly from the overseers' ledgers :—the pence with their fractional parts are omitted.

Years.	Sums collected.			Years.	Sums collected.		
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
1764 - - - - -	380	2	0	1802 - - - - -	11050	0	0
1768 - - - - -	513	19	0	1804 - - - - -	15382	13	0
1792 - - - - -	3657	14	0	1808 - - - - -	18499	10	0
1797 - - - - -	5457	10	0	1812 - - - - -	24763	12	0

The following is an aggregate statement of the Town Rate, from the 9th of August, 1799, to the 31st of December, 1807, of which St. Mary's parish pays two thirds.

Years.	£.	s.	d.	Years.	£.	s.	d.
1799 - - - - -	269	9	2	1804 - - - - -	1661	10	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
1800 - - - - -	902	10	1	1805 - - - - -	1322	6	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1801 - - - - -	1368	16	11	1806 - - - - -	3013	10	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1802 - - - - -	1338	6	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1807 - - - - -	2901	8	1
1803 - - - - -	2982	15	5				

### ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Stands a little to the south of the Market-place, upon an eminence twelve yards above the level of the meadows. Its structure, both in beauty and size, is far inferior to St. Mary's. It is built of stone, in the Gothic style ; and, at the west end, a clumsy tower supports a spire of an ordinary size.

Deering conjectures that this church is " hardly quite so old as St. Mary's ;" by which words he evidently supposes it to be of Saxon origin ; since that people were masters of this kingdom, long after the fictitious date which our author has assigned for the erection of St. Mary's church. How a man of Deering's learning could fall into so gross an error, is really surprising. If there had been any remains of the thick heavy walls, and the obtuse angles, which marked the Saxon architecture, there would have been a shadow of probability in support of his opinion ; but, not the smallest trace of such evidence appears.

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" and sixpence, and the same fees are paid for those who die in the parish and are buried in other places, for every churching sevenpence-halfpenny, for the publication of every banns one shilling and sixpence, for every certificate at the publication of banns one shilling, for every marriage by banns one shilling, for every marriage licence five shillings, and for every woman who lives in the parish and is married by licence in any other place five shillings.

" 42. Item. For every head stone set up in the church-yard or the burial ground two shillings and sixpence, and for every flat stone one pound, one shilling.

" 43. Item. Mortuaries.

" 44 Item. Easter offerings (viz.) sixpence-halfpenny for every house in the parish."

" We believe the above Terrier, consisting of forty-four articles, contains a true account of the houses, glebe lands, tythes, stipendiary payments, and all other ecclesiastical dues and profits whatsoever, belonging to the vicarage of St. Mary, in Nottingham.

" Scrope Beardmore, vicar of St. Mary, in Nottingham ; Thomas Pearson, Richard Liptrott—Churchwardens ; William White, John Nix, Charles Sulley, Thomas Lamb, Martha Nixon."

On the subject of Gothic architecture, as it is mistakenly called, F. Carter, Esq. F. A. S. thus expresses himself. "Our pointed arch style of architecture, *nicknamed* Gothic, appears to have emerged by accident, and incidental changes, into construction and method, and to have arisen from the embers of architecture in use amongst us, during the era of the Saxons" Thus this great antiquary finds the kind of building we are speaking of to have "emerged by accident and incidental changes into method from the embers of Saxon architecture," instead of its existing as monuments of the labour of that people. The eloquent author of the History of Malmshury, who labored much in the field of architectural antiquity, has the following observations on the subject. "The beautiful peculiarities which stamp the sacred edifices of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, are the steeples with spires and pinnacles; the pillars formed of an assemblage of light columns; the lofty windows, sometimes towering to a point; sometimes (especially at the east and west end of the churches) much enlarged, divided into several lights by stone mullions, and always filled with glass stained with lively colours, to represent saints and martyrs, kings, queens, and benefactors." Here we have the date of the introduction of spire and pinnacle erections, of which our church is one; and this most distant date is in the thirteenth century. Probably this church was built in the early part of the fifteenth century by Henry the Fifth, who displayed a partiality to this town. Had it been built much later, it would, in the language of Leland, like St. Mary's, have obtained the appellation of *new*; and, had it been built at a much earlier period, the marks of decay would not have escaped his observation. In the age to which we are alluding, the clergy had instilled a belief, that crimes, of whatever nature, had their price of forgiveness in this world; and, under the influence of this opinion, it was customary for those monarchs, who had shed the most blood, to be the most bountiful in erecting churches, monasteries, and abbeys: hence it was that so many of these edifices sprung up in Europe, when the founders thereof had thinned the population of the earth with their crimes: among whom, our Henry the Fifth stands eminently conspicuous.

Deering says, when the workmen were making a family vault in the south side of the church, by order of Abel Smith, Esq. banker, of this town, in the year 1739, they found "a red tile, glazed with cross-keys upon it;" hence he concludes, that the altar had been paved around with the like materials. On our author's naming this circumstance to John Plumptre, Esq. the latter shewed him a similar tile which had been found in St. Mary's church, and on which were the figures of a bell, a key, and a sword, the two latter being the symbols of St. Peter and St. Paul. Bells were introduced into churches by St. Paulinus, bishop of Nola, in the fifth century; and the figure thereof, accompanied with the symbols of the two principal saints, being represented on the materials for paving the most sacred part of the churches, would have a tendency to heighten the veneration in the audience. But, so far from the finding of these sacred fragments being a proof of the great antiquity of the churches themselves, a proof to the contrary, is deducible therefrom; for, when these edifices were built on the foundation or site of others, the probability is that some fragments of the old, and greatly damaged pavements, would be buried in the earth which was occasionally removed.

Until the dissolution of chapels, chantries, and religious guilds, by Henry the Eighth, there were in this church the chapels of St. Mary and All-Saints, the former in the south and the latter in the north side of the church. There was also a guild, or fraternity of St. George; the date of which is carried back to the year 1440.\*

The exterior of this edifice has undergone considerable repairs within the last thirty years. In 1789, the upper part of the steeple was in a very dilapidated state, when a man of the name of Wooton, commonly called *the steeple climber*, undertook to repair it, without the expense of scaffolding. He began by placing a ladder against the steeple, which he secured to the wall with tenters: he then mounted that with another on his shoulder, which he fastened above it in like manner; and, so on till he reached the top. To prevent himself falling, he was girded round with belts, which, by means of hooks, he connected with the ladders. Thus were the materials borne up; and thus was Wooton enabled to rebuild four yards of the steeple; and, when he had completed the work, he fixed a weathercock on the top. When he had accomplished his undertaking, in order to excite admiration and obtain money, he walked round the summit of the spire, beat a drum, and drank a bottle of ale, in the sight of thousands of people on a market-day; but the reprobation of the man's temerity, so far over-balanced public admiration, as in a considerable degree to diminish his expected reward†.

In 1800, the south side of the church was rebuilt, though the stone was extremely unfit for such a purpose. And, in 1806 and 7 the northern portico was taken down, and that side of the church was stuccoed. A question, whether the parishioners or the rector should repair the chancel, was agitated in the vestry in 1814; but, in consideration of there being no great tithes belonging to the rectory, with the prospect of a most expensive litigation and a doubt of success before their eyes, the parishioners agreed to take the burden upon themselves.

Deering says, during the civil wars, that an accidental bomb fell into the vestry and dashed it to pieces. And Throsby says, this circumstance happened when the town was *besieged*. If that species of attack could be called a *siege*, which consisted in a body of men once obtaining possession of the town by treachery in the night, and once when its defenders were elsewhere employed, and then flying away at the approach of the latter, then Throsby is right in saying that Nottingham was *besieged* by the royalists, and not otherwise. I presume that Colonel Hutchinson purposely directed several bombs or shots at this church to drive the Newarkers away, who had made a lodgment in it, in February 1644. There is a peal of eight bells in this steeple, the best attuned and the most melodious of any within many miles. They were cast in 1771, and rung the first time on the morning of Christmas-day that year; though Throsby, negligently, and ignorantly, states them to have been cast about the year 1783.

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\* In the south aisle, or the chapel formerly dedicated to St. Mary, the Spiritual Court of the Archdeaconry has been kept, time immemorial; but in, or about the year 1795, the practice of litigation ceased, all causes being referred to the court of York, except the merely issuing of citations; notwithstanding this, the court meets as usual, four, five, or six times a year, which meetings are regulated by the court of York.

† Through misfortunes, this man ended his days in Nottingham gaol, as a debtor, in 1808.

A poor washerwoman, of the name of Margery Doubleday, by a will bearing date the 20th of June, 1544, left the rent of a close, which abuts upon the south side of Broad-marsh, and which then let for twenty shillings a year, to the sexton of this parish, on condition of his ringing the then seventh bell (which she bought for the purpose) every morning, except Sundays, at four o'clock, to arouse the washerwomen of the town to their labour. She also willed the rent of a close, which was then seventy-six shillings and eightpence, to be paid to the Guild of St. George in this church, for prayers being put up for her soul and that of her husband, for ever\*. These salaries are now become sinecures; the sexton and minister receiving the wages, the former for tolling the bell once a year, and the latter for *dreaming a dirge* and *thinking a mass*.\*

The church-yard, till the year 1804, was open to the public; there being one entrance to the north, one to the south, and one at the north-east corner; but it was then inclosed, by stopping the north and south entrances, and by running a line of cast-metal palisades across the east end, leaving a footway from the south-east to the north-east corner; the southern, and northern boundaries of the ground being inclosed with a wall; a principal entrance, for persons attending divine worship being preserved in the latter direction, near the end of Peck-lane.

Within this hallowed inclosure are many grave and head-stones; among the former, on the east side of the path which leads to the northern entrance into the church, is one, sacred to the memory of a man who was a great stickler for the *high*, or *blue* party in this town, at elections; and who is stated to have had great influence with the working class. He was a needle-maker by trade; but, though poor, he was honest; for, it is said to his honor, that he never took a bribe. What a national blessing would it be, if as much could be said, with truth, of every elector and representative in the kingdom! In 1727, an opposition took place at the election of Borlace Warren, Esq. and the Hon. John Stanhope; the latter gentleman and John Plumptre, Esq. being of the whig party; but Mr. Warren was the object of our hero's choice, who declared, while the election was in progress, "that he should not mind dying immediately, if his cock succeeded;" and so it turned out; for, when the chairing was over, he fell down dead with impassioned joy; in consequence of which, and from his having been a dutiful and kind son to a widowed mother, the following serio-comic epitaph was written for and engraved upon his tomb:—

Here lies VIN EYRE†  
 Let fall a tear,  
 For one true man of honor,  
 No courtly Lord,  
 That breaks his word,  
 Will ever be a mourner.  
  
 In freedom's cause,  
 He stretch'd his jaws,  
 Exhausted all his spirit;

\* This close was stated to be at the wood side; and as I am informed, the next close but one to the *Trough Close*, on the north side.

† In St. Peter's register, we find the following anecdote recorded:—"The little bell, which the Town Crier useth, doth belong to the church of St. Peter, and was cast at the charge of the parish, 1624."



Then fell down dead—  
 It must be said  
 He was a man of merit.  
 Let freemen be  
 As brave as he,  
 And vote without a guinea :  
 VIN EYRE is hurl'd  
 To th' other world  
 And ne'er took bribe a penny.

*Sept. 6th, 1727.*

True to his friend, to helpless parent kind,  
 He died in honor's cause—to interest blind !  
 Why should we grieve, life's but an airy toy ;  
 We vainly weep for him *who died with joy !*

This man being thus marked out, as an exception in the system of corruption at elections, proves that considerable progress in the path of patriotic rectitude has been made since that time ; as, within the last twenty years, many electors have been found, among the working class, whose conduct in resisting threats, and every species of seductive allurements, has done honor to the parties to which they were respectively attached.—Every letter is worn out of the stone, which covers the ashes of *honest Vin.* ; and, their not being replaced, reflects discredit on the burgesses at large, particularly the party in whose cause he expired.\*

A peculiar neatness distinguishes the interior of this church ; and, in 1812, an organ was erected in it by subscription among the parishioners.—A large square window used to adorn the east end of the chancel, by the variegation it displayed of ancient coats of arms in stained glass ; but, in 1720, it was built up, and an altar-piece was placed against it, which is a great ornament to the church. It represents Christ and *eleven* apostles at the last supper ; and Moses and Aaron grace the side extremities in their pontifical robes. But, the beauty of the piece was much injured by the operation of the southern sunbeams, before the parishioners had the foresight to protect it by a window-blind.

The north side of the chancel is graced with several mural monuments :—Two to the memory of the families of Lockes and Saunders, ornamented with their respective armorial bearings are near the eastern end. Another informs us that John Tempest, Esq. third son of Sir George Tempest, Bart. of Tong, in the county of York, died in 1752, at the age of 51. His wife, Elizabeth, is stated to have followed him in 1784, at the age of 77. It also remembers the Rev. Robert Tempest, who departed this life in 1755, aged 53. Near the vestry door is a beautiful one of white marble to the memory of Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of Robert and Ann, Lord and Lady Carrington, and wife of Alan Hyde, Lord Gardner, who departed this life on the 27th

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\* There are six or seven elm trees in this church-yard—A statute of the last of Edward the First, directs trees to be planted in church-yards ; and the preamble to it states, that the original design of planting them in these places was, to protect churches against the wind.

of March, 1811, at the age of 27. She left two children ; and is spoken of as having possessed every virtue, which can adorn the female character.

On the opposite wall is one to the memory of Edward Chappel, rector of this parish and of Barnborough in the county of York, and prebendary of Southwell. Over the door is a plain monument which states John Sherbrooke, Gent. to have died in 1760, aged 84. There are several other monuments in this church, among which we will notice one to the memory of Francis Braithwaite, a respectable hosier of this town, who died at the age of 47, in the year 1813. He was principally instrumental in causing the organ to be erected the previous year. In the south aisle is one to the memory of Thomas Trigge, Alderman, who quitted this earthly tabernacle in 1704, in the 52d year of his age. He gave £50 at his death to buy land with, the rent whereof to be distributed in bread to the poor, by the minister and churchwardens on Christmas-day. Near to this is one to the memory of John Rickards, Alderman, who departed this life in 1703.

Upon a tombstone in this aisle in the following inscription :—" Here lie the bodies of William Ayscough, printer and bookseller, of this town, and Ann, his wife—she was daughter of the Rev. Mr. Young, rector of Catwick, in the county of York. He died March 2d, 1719 ; she died December 16th, 1732." To this Deering adds, " The above Mr. Ayscough is remarkable for having first established the art of printing in this town, about the year 1710."\* In the north aisle are several hatchments, one to the memory of a bachelor of the name of Langford, one to a female of the Smith's family, and the other three to males of the same family.

#### LIST OF THE RECTORS OF ST. PETER'S PARISH.

1241 Johannes de Nottingham	1483 Johannes Mayewe	1618 Hugo Parke, <i>sequestrator</i>
1280 Johannes Cathal	1486 Robertus Cotyngum	1619 Georgius Cotes
1287 Richardus de Stapleton	1499 Willielmus Ilkeston	1640 Johannes Goodall
1292 Johannes Brus de Pykering	1510 Johannes Plough Kyngsbury	1642 Johannes Aysthorpe
1300 Adam de Kyrkby	1538 Johannes Plough, <i>jun.</i>	1667 Samuel Leak
1322 Lancelot de Corebto	1550 Nicholaus Cooke	1672 Edwardus Buxton
1323 Willielmus de Willoughby	1578 Johannes Nytter vel Wittie	1680 Willielmus Wilson, A. M.
1334 Robertus Jolan	1583 Carolus Aynsworth	1693 Nathan Drake, A. M.
1347 Willielmus de Whatton	1588 Radolphus Shutte	1704 Timothy Fenton, A. M.
1349 Henricus de Keyworth	1593 Johannes Pare	1721 James Wilson, A. M.
1369 Robertus de Newbald	1604 Franciscus Rodos	1725 Edward Chappell, A. M.
1375 Willielmus de Rodington	1606 Roger Freeman	1767 Samuel Martin, A. M.
1392 Hugo Martel	1610 Johannes Kelle	1783 Jeremiah Bigsby, A. M.
1426 Johannes Burton	1610 Thomas Low	1797 John Staunton, L. L. D.†
1434 Johannes Drayton	1617 Georgius Cotes	1814 R. W. Almond, A. M.
1445 Willielmus Gull		

\* Mr. Ayscough commenced the printing business in a house, on the west side of Bridlesmith-gate, midway between Pepper-street and Peter-gate. In about six years after, Mr John Collyer commenced printing a newspaper, (in a house on Timber-bill, now occupied by Mr. Wilson, draper,) which was called the *Nottingham Post*, and was continued till the year 1732, when Mr. George Ayscough, son of the above-mentioned William, began the *Nottingham Courant*, in the house wherein his father commenced the business of printing. In 1757, Mr. Samuel Cresswell, of this town, and Mr. John Gregory, of Leicester, began a paper, called the *Leicester and Nottingham Journal*: it

**ST. NICHOLAS'S CHURCH.**

By examining Spede's map, we find that the church, which occupied the site of the present one, was similar in shape and size to St. Peter's; but, it appears to have been more ornamented, and rather more modern in its erection. When the castle was commanded by Colonel Hutchinson, Alderman Toplady treacherously let the Newarkers into the town, who obtained possession of this church; on which account Mrs. Hutchinson thus speaks. "There was an old church, called St. Nicholas's church, whose steeple so commanded the platform, that the men could not play the ordnance without woolsacks before them. From this church the bullets played so thick into the outward castle yard, that they could not pass from one gate to another, nor relieve the guards, but with very great hazard." When the Colonel had chased the Newarkers out of the town, he, by the advice of the committee, ordered the church to be taken down, lest it should again furnish his enemies with the means of annoying him. On this subject, Deering fell into an egregious, if not a malicious mistake; for he says, Colonel Hutchinson sent the bells to Owthorpe, which place was the Colonel's property; but, so far from that being the fact, that village was then in the hands of the royalists, and continued so till the surrender of Newark to the parliamentary troops; nor is there more than one bell at Owthorpe. Several pieces of a bell, or bells, were found some years ago by a person who was digging near the foundation of the present tower; and it is probable that the whole of the bells were broken by the shot from the castle. A paper preserved by the late Mr. Walter Merry, antiquary of this town, contains the following remarks:—"At, or about Candlemass, 1714, one or more of the pinnacles of the tower of St. Nicholas's church, in Nottingham was blown down, which occasioned the breaking of a main piece of timber, between the steeple and the body of the church; on the plaster of which beam were written these words—This church was burnt and pulled down 1647, and began again 1671." The paper was signed, Bn. Stephenson, sexton, and J. Abson, rector. Some remains of the foundation of the old church has been found by the sexton near the top of Rosemary-lane.

The present church is built of brick, with stone ornaments: the steeple is a tower, containing one bell (independent of the sermon bell,) which was cast in 1726. The edifice was finished in 1678; but it has undergone several alterations and improvements since that time. In 1756, the

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was printed in Leicester, and published at a given hour in Nottingham. This concern lasted till 1769, when Mr. Creswell bought the Courant of Mr. Ayscough, and converted it into the *Nottingham Journal*, in the house at the south end of the Exchange, now occupied by Messrs. Parker and Son, tailors and drapers. In 1772, Mr. George Burbage set up the *Nottingham Chronicle*, on the Long-row, in the second house west of the Crown Inn, now in the occupation of Messrs. Newman and Kirk, drapers. This paper continued till 1775, when Creswell and Burbage compromised their opposition, and became joint proprietors of the *Journal*, which afterwards became the sole property of Mr. Burbage, and, at his death, of Mr. George Stretton, who married his daughter. In 1780, Mr. Henry Cox, writing-master, commenced printing the *Nottingham Gazette*, in the house now owned and occupied by Mr. Tatham, grocer, on the Middle-pavement, at the eastern side of the entrance into Postern-place; but it was given up within the first year. The *Nottingham Review* was established by Mr. Charles Sutton, at his house, at the north-east corner of Bridlesmith-gate, 1808. And another *Nottingham Gazette* was begun by Mr. William Tupman, in 1813, at the north-west corner-house in High-street.

† This gentleman's name was Aspinshaw; but, he obtained the king's licence to change his name, on account of some territorial inheritance.

south side was extended by means of voluntary contributions ; and, in 1783, £500 was raised in the same honorable way for the purpose of enlarging and otherwise repairing the north side.

There are few edifices erected for religious purposes, which exhibit more grandeur, in the art of decorative simplicity, or more taste without ostentation, than the interior of this church displays ; and there is a small organ, which was erected in 1811. On the north side of the communion table, an elegant painting represents the good Samaritan ; and on the south side, one represents the return of the Prodigal Son. The walls are likewise decorated with a number of monuments, some of which have a striking appearance. On the right hand side of the communion table is one to the memory of Elizabeth Alsop, who died in 1731 ; and to Mary Alsop, who died in 1751. In the south aisle is a handsome one to the memory of John Collin, Esq. and several of his children, the descendants of Lawrence Collin, gunner to Colonel Hutchinson. He was a wool-comber by trade, and obtained an order from Cromwell, after the decapitation of Charles, to settle in this town and follow his business ; but the Corporation opposed the order, on the ground of his not being a freeman of the town. They were induced however to yield to the mandate of Cromwell : and, from the benefactions of his posterity, the town has reason to be thankful, that the nonsensical opposition of the Corporation was over ruled :—The inscription upon his monument is in these words :—

NEAR THIS PLACE  
LIES THE BODY OF  
**JOHN COLLIN, ESQ.**  
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE JUNE 18th 1717.  
IN THE 45th YEAR OF HIS AGE.  
HE MARRIED *MARY*, DAUGHTER OF *GEORGE LANGFORD*, ESQ.  
AND *JUDITH* HIS WIFE, BY WHOM HE HAD ISSUE  
SIX SONS AND FOUR DAUGHTERS, *LANGFORD, ABEL*,  
*THOMAS, JOHN, SAMUEL*, AND *GEORGE*,  
*ANN, MARY, JUDITH*, AND *ANN*.  
*ANN, SAMUEL*, AND *GEORGE*,  
DIED IN THEIR INFANCY BEFORE HIM.  
*ABEL COLLIN*, DIED AUGUST 8th 1730.  
*JUDITH COLLIN*, DIED FEB 7th 1731.

Three graves-stones below inform us, that Lawrence Collin, died in August, 1704, in the 91st year of his age : that Abel Collin died in April, 1705 ; and Thomas Collin, in January, 1706.

Another monument remembers Lucy Gage, wife of John Gage, Esq. who departed this life in 1739 ; and the Rev. John Gage, rector of Colwick and West-Bridgeford, who died in 1770.

At the west end of the north aisle, a handsome marble contains the following inscription :—  
“ Near this place lieth the body of Lamuel Lowe, who died the 30th June, 1770, aged 80 years  
“ Also, Mary, his widow, who died 13th January, 1775, aged 77. Likewise William Lowe, their  
“ son, who died 25th July, 1788, aged 64. Also, Ann, his wife, who died 7th December, 1781,  
“ aged 41.

There are many vaults in this church, among which are two near to the last mentioned place, containing the ashes of two Nottingham families, of considerable repute ; viz. the *Huishes* and the

*Davisons.* The grandfather of the present branches of the Huish family was a woolcomber ; and, by care and industry he commenced the business of a hosier, in which he laid the foundation of ample fortunes for his posterity. The other family has been less fortunate ; though Robert and John, the two sons of Doctor Davison, will long be remembered as active tradesmen and distinguished patriots ; John also being a vigilant magistrate of the town ; but, some unfortunate circumstances having shattered his affairs, he became reduced, and the goodness of his heart completed his ruin ; for, having given security, to a very large amount, for the faithfulness of a young man, as clerk in the Bank of England, who betrayed his trust, and escaped the halter by a kind of miracle, he was obliged to pay the forfeited sum, which brought on an insolvency ; and he died in 1804, in the prime of life, of a broken heart. Mr. Robert Davison was equally unfortunate, though one of the most accomplished tradesmen of his day. He quitted the hosiery business, and commenced worsted spinning at Arnold, on a very extensive scale, in conjunction with Mr. John Hawksley ; but, the concern proved unprosperous ; and he expired of an apoplexy in 1807, leaving his affairs in a state of insolvency.

At the east end of this aisle is an elegant marble monument to the memory of Francis Hawksley, who died August 30th, 1749, aged 82 ; Elizabeth his wife, who died December 15th, 1756, aged 88 : and to Francis their son, who died September 14th, 1781 ; also, in memory of Thomas Hawksley, who died January 4th, 1782, aged 49 ; Elizabeth his wife, who died September 9th, 1807, aged 75 ; and also their son Thomas, who died October 3d, 1802, aged 49. The last named gentleman was equally famed as a chemist, a patriot, and a philanthropist in this town.

There are four hatchments in this church—one to the memory of a Mr. Newdigate who resided in a house at the top of the north side of Castle-gate, known for years by the name of *Newdigate-house* ; another to the memory of the first Sir George Smith, Bart. who built the mansion now called *Bromley-house* on Angel-row ; the third to that of Cornelius Lauder, Esq. late of this town ; and the fourth in remembrance of a Mr. Cooper of the Thurgaton family.

The church-yard, which is eleven yards above the level of the meadows, is thickly beset with grave and head-stones ; and among the numerous epitaphs which they exhibit, is one to the memory of a Thomas Booth, who was considered the most accomplished *hero* of his age in the practice of deer-stealing. *Old Tom* was so delighted with the epitaph, which was made before his death, that he obtained a head-stone and had it engraven thereon, preparative to his dissolution, which happened in 1752, in the 75th year of his age. He was a very stout man ; and by trade a whitesmith. The stone stands against the southern wall of the church.

“ Here lies a marksman, who, with art and skill,  
 “ When young and strong, fat bucks and does did kill.  
 “ Now conquered by grim death (go reader tell it)  
 “ He’s now took leave of powder, gun, and pellet.  
 “ A fatal dart, which in the dark did fly,  
 “ Has laid him down among the dead to lie.  
 “ If any want to know the poor slave’s name,  
 “ ’Tis Old Tom Booth, ne’er ask from whence he came.  
 “ He’s hither sent ; and surely such another,  
 “ Ne’er issued from the belly of a mother.”

On the east side of the church-yard is a small mural monument to the memory of William John Gill, son of the Rev. Joseph Gill, vicar of Scraftoft in Leicestershire, who was apprentice to Mr. Attenburrow, surgeon, and who, at the age of 19, on the 19th August, 1802, was drowned in the Trent, while in the act of bathing, between the boat-house and the bridge. He was much admired for the suavity of his manners; and was much lamented by the faculty for the precocity of his genius. The following pathetic lines are engraven on the monument:—

“ Ah! why in speechless, hopeless, anguish bend,  
 “ O’er his lov’d grave, the parent, sister, friend?  
 “ Why mourn, when honor, goodness, mildness, truth,  
 “ Ennobled and adorned his blameless youth?  
 “ Why mourn, when firm in virtue’s path he trod?  
 “ That virtue which endeared him to his God.  
 “ He saw, approved, made soft the mortal blow,  
 “ And snatch’d him guiltless from a world of woe.”

Adjoining to the south-east side of the church-yard is an additional burying ground.

#### RECTORS OF ST. NICHOLAS’S CHURCH.

1259 Will Bishop	1427 Willielmus Cokker	1585 Radulphus Shute
1267 Richard de Weremsworth	1432 Willielmus Westthorpe	1588 Johannes Lambe
1286 Johannes de Ludham	1435 Johannes Sampson	1611 Robertus Malham
1317 Herbertus Pouger	1436 Johannes Hopwell	1622 Robertus Aynsworth
1318 Willielmus de Ilkeston	1464 Nicholas Fish	1663 Johannes Aysthorpe
1321 Galfridus de Wilford	1466 Richardus Elkesly	1665 <i>Vacant to 1669</i>
1329 Gilbertus de Ottrington	1471 Robertus Echard	1669 Samuel Leek
— Thomas Tutil	1476 Thomas Tewe	1674 <i>Vacant to 1682</i>
1351 Richardus Kaym de Gotham	1477 Edmundus Holme	1682 Johannes Simpson
1366 Johannes Templer	1497 Johannes Dale	1715 Johannes Abson, A. M.
1366 Johannes Deinby	1502 Thomas Reyner	1749 George Wakefield, A. M.*
1367 Thomas Lorday de Stanley	1503 Reynaldus Marshal	1767 George Beaumont, L. L. B.
1371 Willielmus de Bilham	1531 Alexander Penhill	1773 Charles Wylde, D. D.
— Roger Bampton vel Mempton	1533 Thomas Ward	

It is singular, that in every list of the *rectors* of this parish, previous to the publication of this History, the writer thereof has substituted *vicars* in their stead. The list too, from 1622, to 1669, appears a complete jumble, which we will rectify in the best manner we are able. It is stated in the previously published lists, that Robert Aynsworth, who was inducted in 1622, was the last incumbent till after the restoration; that John Aysthorpe, who became rector of St. Peter’s in 1642, was sequestrator of St. Nicholas in 1663; and that, in 1664, there was no sequestrator.—Now, from Robert Aynsworth being stated to be the last incumbent till after the restoration, we should be justified in concluding, that one had been inducted immediately on that event taking

\* The Corporation presented Mr. Wakefield with the freedom of the town, on his being inducted into this rectory; and the first time he exercised his franchise was in 1754, when he voted contrary to the corporate interest, in return for which, they withheld from him a share of the £60 which they gave annually among the ministers of the three parishes; but restored it to him in about three years. This donation is now entirely withheld.

place, which was in 1660, yet we find none mentioned till 1669; though we are told, that John Aysthorpe was sequestrator in 1663; as if a sequestrator had been a regular officer in the parish. A sequestrator is an officer appointed by government to seize upon certain property, and, who has the charge of it till some question in dispute, relative to it is decided. And when St. Nicholas's church was demolished, in 1647, as we hear no more of the then rector, we have a right to conclude, that he was dismissed, probably for participating in the treachery of Alderman Toplady; nor could there be any property to sequester; since, although the benefice is a rectory, it possesses no great tithes, there being no cultivated land in the parish, except a few plots of garden ground. Nor do we find that the small tithes were ever collected. The error seems to have arisen here—From the destruction of the church to the time of its being rebuilt, it is probable, that the rector of St. Peter's officiated, with respect to marriages, burials, &c. and would, of course, receive the dues arising therefrom; and as such, as far as respects those duties, he ought to be set down as rector of this parish. Samuel Leek, or Leak, is positively named as such in both parishes; and I have ventured to place John Aysthorpe in the same capacity.

St. Peter's parish is circumstanced the same as St. Nicholas's, respecting great tithes; and, as to the small ones, I cannot learn of their ever having been collected, except in the following instance, the particulars of which I had from one of the parties concerned. The rector, about the year 1793, said to one of the officers of the church, "if you will inform me of any person who keeps breeding sows in the parish, I will make it worth your while." The person replied, that he knew of but one, whom he named; and, in a day or two he let him know, that his sty would be *honored* in a short time by a *tithe-pig visitant*. The owner of the pigs, however, determined to prevent the necessity of such visit; and he accordingly took a young pig in his arms, and contrived to make it move the knocker at the rector's door, who, being informed of the nature of the visit, welcomed the squeaking guest into the house; but, he never inquired for a tithe-pig any more; nor did he reward the person who had given the information.

In St. Mary's parish the case is different: there the vicarage tithes are collected with considerable severity, particularly since the death of the Rev. Dr. Haines. There are also two customs pursued in this parish, that are said to be peculiar to it; and which shall be related here, though one of them might more properly belong to another place.

Tradition informs us, that King John, when on one of his visits to this town, called upon the chief magistrate, whose cellar he found destitute of ale; and that he likewise called upon the minister of St. Mary's, whose cupboard was destitute of bread. John, being vexed to find two such characters in circumstances so disagreeable, ordered, that the chief magistrate should annually have a certain quantity of ale given to him by every publican in the town; and that the minister should have a halfpenny loaf given to him weekly by each baker in his parish. The former tribute is collected by one of the town serjeants, who, in lieu of sixpence worth of ale which used to be drunk by any one he chose to give it to, now demands fourpence in money, and the liberty of tasting the landlord's tap.—The latter is collected by any person whom the vicar chooses to appoint.

### ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.

When tradition is neither supported by written document nor substantial circumstance, it should be most sparingly received ; but, when it is corroborated, though only by the latter, it merits some attention. In this situation we find the generally received opinion, of a church, dedicated to St. Michael, having stood between Fox-lane and St. Ann's-street ; which space is to this day, called *St. Michael's church-yard*. When the proper authorities go on their processioning excursions they are attended at this place by a clergyman, who reads a lesson out of the scriptures on the spot. And I am informed, by Mr. Joseph Crisp, on whose veracity the greatest reliance may be placed, that his father, who was a gardener, in the course of his digging in this place, found a great many human bones. These circumstances certainly combine in support of the opinion, of a church having stood here ; but at what period is entirely left to conjecture. Had it existed at the general survey, it would of course have been noticed ; or if, when the town wall was erected, there is scarcely a doubt but it would have been encompassed on the north by that fortification. The probability is, if a church ever did stand here, that it was erected by some of the Mercian kings ; and that it was destroyed by the hostile Danes in 868, as it might be made use of by the inhabitants in opposing the approach of these spoliators to the town.

### ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, OR CHAPEL OF EASE.

Various attempts were made within the last twenty years to obtain a grant for the erecting a *chapel of ease* in this town, which were regularly opposed by the incumbents of the three parishes ; but, when Standard-hill was advertised to be sold, it being extra-parochial, and, consequently, without the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of the diocese, it was thought a favorable opportunity for the accomplishment of the object. Accordingly, the friends of the measure, bought a piece of ground upon this desirable spot, and then applied to parliament for authority to consummate their wishes. The incumbents petitioned against the bill, which was strongly opposed in the House of Lords ; but they failed, and, in 1807, it received the royal assent. It was not a want of *room* in the churches, which caused a number of the adherents to the established faith to wish for a new church ; for, except on extraordinary occasions, there is always accommodation for many more persons than what attend. No, it is the *discipline*, and not the *tenets* of the establishment with which the members of this congregation are at variance.

In a cavity in the foundation stone, at the south-west corner, is a brass plate, containing the following inscription :—" This first stone of a building, dedicated to St. James, for the public " worship of Almighty God, agreeably to the rites and ceremonies of the established church of " England, was laid by Thomas Hill, Edmund Wright, Richard Eaton, and Benjamin Maddock, " Esquires, the 27th day of April, in the year of our Lord, 1808, and the 48th year of the reign " of his majesty, King George the Third ; the Right Honorable and Reverend Edward Venables " Vernon, being Lord Archbishop of the diocese."

In June 1809, the fabrie was in such a state of forwardness as to admit of divine service being performed in it, at which time it was consecrated. The building is too low, to be elegant ; yet it



is high enough to be comfortable for a considerable congregation ; and, to make it more so in winter, it is flued in various directions, for the purpose of heat being conveyed. The side aisles are commodiously lofted, as also is the west end of the nave. The steeple, if it deserve the name, is a tower, with one bell, which was cast by Hedderly, bellfounder in this town, in 1791, for the use of a cotton mill in Broad-marsh. The walls are of brick, cased with stone ; and the window and door frames are, in what is termed, the *Gothic* taste.

### ST. JAMES'S CHAPEL.

The first building, bearing the distinctive name of chapel, which we read of in this town, apart from the churches, was dedicated to St. James : it stood about sixty yards from the bottom, and on the south side of the street which bears the name of the saint. Probably this chapel was of Saxon origin, since we find no account of its erection by the Normans, and since, on the establishing of the *Peverel Court* the sittings thereof were ordered to be held therein, and which were held there till 1316, when Edward the Second removed this court to the County-hall, and exonerated the town of Nottingham from its feudal jurisdiction ; and gave the chapel to the Carmelite Friars, to whose convent it stood contiguous. Edward the Third, in the 41st of his reign, granted the *honor of Peverel*, as the high stewardship of this court is called, to William de Eland, of Basford, and his heirs, about which time it appears to have been removed to that village ; the high steward having the power of keeping it at any place within its jurisdiction. Whether it had been removed from Basford and taken thither again, between the years 1368 and 1791, does not appear ; certain it is however, that this court had been kept at Basford during a long and uninterrupted series of years, previous to the last mentioned date ; about which time, Mr. John Sands, keeper of the prison, opened the doors and let the prisoners out, because there was no food allowed for their support, and because he had been *legally* informed, that, if one of them died of want, he would be liable to take his trial as a murderer. The court was then removed to Lenton ; the prisoners being placed under the care of Mr. Wombwell, who, in 1804, built a new coffee-house and a prison.

The court we are speaking of is a *Court of Pleas*, for the recovery of small debts, and for damages in case of trespass : its jurisdiction extends over one hundred and seventy towns and villages in Nottinghamshire, one hundred and twenty in Derbyshire, and several in the counties of Leicester and York. At the present time, Lord Middleton is the high steward, Mr. John Balguy, barrister, the deputy steward, and Mr. S. Sanders, solicitor, the prothonotary. A court is held every Tuesday, and the writs issued are returnable the next court day to that on which they are issued : and a general court, in which the high steward is supposed to preside, is held twice a year, which are called "The courts of trials."\*

Deering, from not being able to obtain a list of the high stewards, supposed such list to have been destroyed in "the civil wars ;" but, by referring to Rastall's History of Southwell, and other

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\* Several additions were made to the limits of the jurisdiction of this court by Charles the First and Charles the Second, in which Rotherham and Sheffield were included.

records, I have been able to make out the following list; which, I by no means, present to the public as *complete*.

#### LIST OF THE HIGH STEWARDS:

William Peverel; Sir William Peverel, son of the former; Ralph Paynel, one of the Empress Maud's captains; The Crown; John Earl of Morton, afterwards King John; Robert de Vavasor; Hugh de Stapleford;\* William de Eland; Rowland Revel, who married an heiress of William de Eland; Randal Revel, and Hugh Revel, successors of Rowland.—The Hutchinsons of Basford, a collateral branch of the family of the Hutchinsons of Owthorpe; Lord Goring, from whom the stewardship passed to his son Charles, Earl of Norwich; Henry Goring next possessed it; and next Charles, second son of the Earl of Norwich. It afterwards fell into the hands of Lord Wigorne; and after him into those of his sons, Charles, Lord Herbert, and Arthur, Lord Somerset. Queen Ann, in the 5th year of her reign, by letters patent, granted the honor of Peverel to Sir Thomas Willoughby (whom she afterwards created a peer of the realm, along with eleven others, to control a political question in the House of Lords), and his heirs for ever. From this nobleman the honor descended to his son, Francis Lord Middleton; and from him to his son Francis Lord Middleton; from him to his brother, Thomas, Lord Middleton; from him to his cousin Henry, Lord Middleton; and from him to his son Henry, the present and sixth Lord Middleton.

Mrs. Hutchinson states, that the powers of this detestable court lay dormant a considerable time, previous to the appointment of Lord Goring, to the office of high steward, which is the highest panegyric she could pass upon the relatives of her husband; for, it must have been a sense of the injustice of this court, which induced them thus to suspend its operations. Mrs. Hutchinson further states, that "a pragmatistical babbler, of the name of Chadwick, who, by his arts, had arisen from a "cleaner of trenchers to a retailer in scraps of law," had the address to get the powers of this court revived, and himself to be constituted their prime mover.

Shortly after the writer of these pages became a resident of Nottingham, he went with a friend, one morning in February, to see what havoc stern winter had made in the coffee-house gardens at Lenton, which had been represented to him as a kind of paradise in the summer season; being unconscious, at that time, that one of the most wretched mansions of human misery stood within their precincts. Several robins were fluttering upon the keenly frozen snow, in quest of scattered crumbs; and a blackbird, all shivering with cold, was hopping from spray to spray—the wind whistled, and bleak, from the north-east, the angry blast blew.—While walking in pensive

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\* Of the Stapleford's little is known, they resided at the village of Stapleford for some generations, and the last male of the family dying without issue, his sister Margaret took the estates, &c. into the Tevery family. This family had long been seated at Long Eaton, but John Tevery having married the above Margaret Stapleford, he made Stapleford his place of residence, and the family continued there until (for want of male heirs) the property went by marriage to the Palmes's who soon afterwards retired into Yorkshire, and disposed of the property here. The old mansion was sold to the Warrens and the lands to different persons. The family of Palmes still exists in Yorkshire, being seated at Naburne near York.

The Elands were settled at Basford for a considerable length of time, and the family name seems to have ended in the person of Mary who was the daughter and heir of Thomas Eland, and who married Rowland Revel in the reign of Henry the Eighth. The estates of the Elands were sold to Thomas Hutchinson, Esq. of Owthorpe, who gave them to his second son John, from whom descended the Hutchinsons of Basford.

admiration, his ears were stricken with the sound of a human voice, the tremulous cadence of which bespoke the anguish of the bosom whence it came. These were the words which it uttered—"God bless you master, pray relieve a poor prisoner, famishing for want of food, and trembling with cold."—A clap of thunder would not have made so deep an impression on the memory—death alone can remove that impression from the heart.—Hastily turning about, a man appeared, peeping through a hole in a door, with a beard of four week's growth upon his face, which was otherwise haggard and meager—his eyeballs glaring with anxiety; and his body sparingly clad in filthy rags. What! a prison in a pleasure garden! was the first exclamation that presented itself!—and pray what is your offence, my poor man? and what your means of subsistence? "My offence" replied the victim, "is that of running twenty-five shillings in debt, when my family was nearly perishing with hunger, during last year's famine, (1795,) and which I have not been able to pay; and my means of subsistence (while, with a look which was half sarcastic and half expressive of his sufferings, he pointed towards a pump,) my means of subsistence are all within that well, except a few scraps which the keeper pleases to give me, for cleaning his knives and his shoes." What! is it to be borne, that, in what is called a land of liberty, a human being is to be incarcerated within four walls, without bread, and without fire.\* "That is all," replied the prisoner, still pointing towards the pump; "and, as my wife and children are now supported by the parish, not one of them can come near me, to cheer me with a smile." Without calculating upon consequences, or reflecting, that his strength was inadequate to the performance of what the wounded feelings of the heart suggested, the narrator immediately set his shoulder to the door, with the hope of wresting it from its hateful hinges; but, the unhappy man stopt him, by saying, "you will only, by a vain attempt, bring yourself into trouble, and add much to mine; for, if I should obtain the keeper's displeasure, he will not give me a morsel of bread to prolong my miserable existence, till the rules of the court will permit me to leave this abode of sorrow; in which case I must die of want here, and never see my disconsolate family more."—A flood of tears gave relief to the writer's half-bursting heart—he forced the small contents of his pocket into the hand of the wretched sufferer, and then fled from this disgraceful dreg of the feudal law. If Lord Middleton's favorite dogs were once confined in this prison, his lordship would order the walls to be levelled with the ground; and, O! what honor would be the lot of that gentleman, who should be the cause of driving this badge of disgrace from the face of the earth.

### DISSENTING CHAPELS.

Dissenters took their rise in England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, under the appellation of *Puritans*; and many were added to their numbers in the time of James the First, in consequence of his establishing the Book of Canons, and from his causing the Book of Sports to be published.

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\* Here the following passage from Beccaria's Essay presented itself to the writer's mind, and caused the above exclamation. "The degree of the punishment, and the consequences of a crime ought to be so contrived as to have the greatest possible effect on others, with the least possible pain to the delinquent. If there be any society in which this is not a fundamental principle, it is an unlawful society, for mankind, by their union, originally intended to subject themselves to the least evils possible."

The first dissenting congregation were called together, November the 20th, 1572; and the first independent church was established by one Henry Jacobs, in 1616.

The bigoted and persecuting conduct of Charles the First added many to the body of dissenters, particularly by his disregard of the sabbath, which was exemplified in his ordering the Book of Sports to be re-published, which he enjoined the clergy to read in their pulpits, under the forfeiture of excommunication and the loss of their benefices. He thus added to the dissenting interest, by furnishing many conscientious shepherds to guide the different, and hourly increasing flocks.

Though Charles the Second owed his crown to the dissenters, he sought by every means in his power to be their tormentor; first by passing the Act of Uniformity, in 1662, and secondly, in two years after, by passing the Conventicle Act, which enacted, that every person, above sixteen years of age, who should be found at a religious meeting, the principles of which should be adjudged to be contrary to the established religion, where more than five persons were present, besides the household, should pay five pounds, or be imprisoned three months for the first offence; double for the second; and for the third, to be banished seven years, or pay one hundred pounds; and, in case of return or escape, to suffer death, without benefit of clergy.

The passing of the famous, or rather *infamous*, Oxford, or Five-mile Act, in 1665, completed the tyranny of Charles, and shewed the vile and persecuting spirit which governed his councils. This Act inflicted a penalty of forty pounds upon every dissenter who should be found preaching, or teaching a school within five miles of any city, town corporate, or borough, except he had previously taken the following oath. To wit. "I, A. B. do swear, that it is not lawful, upon any pretence whatsoever, to take arms against the king, or against those commissioned by him; and that I will not, at any time, endeavour any alteration of government in church or state." In consequence of this arbitrary measure, Mr. Whitelock and Mr. Reynolds were driven from their asylum at Colwick-hall; *and it is computed, that the dissenters, in the space of three years, were plundered of ten millions of property; and that eight thousand died in prison in the course of this reign.\**

The dissenters of this town may date their origin from the time of Charles the First; for, as the inhabitants took part with the parliament, it is fair to conclude, that, a liberality in religious sentiments was encouraged; indeed this is evident from the handsome manner in which Whitelock and Reynolds were treated. But while the dissenters in general were smarting under the furious lash of Charles the Second, those in this town used to assemble at midnight in a vault, under where Mrs. Gawthorn's house now stands, at the top of Drury-hill. And, after the Act of Toleration was passed in the reign of William and Mary, a party assembled in a house at the north-east corner of Pilcher-gate. In a short time after this the

### **HIGH-PAVEMENT CHAPEL**

was erected, which belongs to a sect, anciently known by the name of Socinians, that arose in Poland, from the preaching of one Faustus Socinus, who died in 1604; but they are now more

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\* See Palmer's History of the Nonconformists

properly known by the appellation of *Unitarians*, or *Antitrinitarians*; they believing in one God only, as the creator and preserver of all things; and that Christ, the son of *Joseph and Mary*, was sent by God on a divine mission, to instruct mankind by his doctrine and example, both in life and death, in the ways of righteousness, humanity, morality, and brotherly love. They believe that the Holy Ghost consists in the inspiring spirit of God, through the medium of the scriptures: that there is no such thing as original sin, as that would import concupiscence, or deformity in nature; and that man has a free will to do good and to fulfil the law.

Deering calls them *Presbyterians*; and Throsby, the copiest of all his errors, does the same. *Presbyterians* are so called, from their church government being regulated by a Synod, or *Presbytery*, consisting of elders, chosen and invested with powers for that purpose, by all, or certain members of the body over whom they preside. The members of the church of Scotland are disciples of John Knox, who was a follower of John Calvin; and yet they are called *Presbyterians*, from a vulgar error, that the word *Presbyter* designates the tenets of their faith; whereas it has no more to do with the definition of those tenets, than the President of the American States has to do with the consciences of his fellow citizens. As well might every descendant of Abraham be called a *Theologian*, because the Hebrews were once governed by a *Theocracy*, as to call any sect *Presbyterians*, because they are dissentients from the established church.

This chapel was new roofed, the floor flued, the walls stuccoed, and otherwise repaired, in 1805. The building is fifty-nine feet, by fifty feet; and, though it is not the largest, it is the most majestic, and has the most commanding appearance of any chapel in the town. Adjoining to it, on the south side, are two commodious school rooms, and a small sitting-room, with every necessary accommodation.

In this chapel the herculean talents of the late Rev. George Walker, (well known in the philosophical and political circles) long thundered forth the principles of civil and religious liberty—the benignity, resulting from the practice of humanity and charity—the necessity of instructing youth in the precepts of morality, and in the rudiments of education—while he would pour the balmy sweets of comfort into the hearts of his hearers, by calling upon the Father of Mercies, in the most emphatic strains, to secure the eternal happiness of mankind. Here the Rev. James Tayler, and the Rev. Joseph Hutton, now unfold the beauties of christianity with superior eloquence, to one of the most respectable congregations in the town; and illustrate its precepts by example. And, in viewing the free schools kept here, with what emotions of delight do we behold the man possessed of thousands, bending the knee to, and courting the attention of the orphan, in order the more forcibly to implant the rudiments of education and the precepts of morality in its infant and expanding mind.

### CASTLE-GATE CHAPEL.

The congregation that attends this place of worship is very numerous; and many of its members are of high respectability, both for wealth and moral rectitude, as well as for their liberality and charity to the poor. The members of this church are called *Calvinistic Independents*, or *Congregationalists*, from their adhering to the doctrines of John Calvin; and from their holding

it as a matter of right, that every congregation, or church, should stand independent of any other, respecting its own internal government. They believe in predestination and particular redemption—that grace is necessary to salvation—that good works are not the less necessary to render them objects worthy of being partakers of grace, which can only be obtained through the inspiration of the Holy Ghost—that the blood of Christ, *the Son of God*, was shed for the redemption of God's elect; and that none will be refused that seek, *though at the eleventh hour*.

They separated from the Unitarians on doctrinal points, about the year 1688, in which memorable year this chapel was built. It stands on the north side, and near the bottom of Castle-gate: it is a noble structure, and measures fifty-five feet by fifty-three. Adjoining to it is a vestry and two convenient school rooms: the inside is well lofted, and presents a commanding appearance. A burial ground, belonging to the society, in front of the chapel, contains many grave and head-stones; and under it runs a culvert which divides St. Peter's and St. Nicholas's parishes. The present minister is the Rev. Richard Alliott, who possesses a fine flow of eloquence, and every virtue, so eminently necessary in his conspicuous situation.

### ***THE PARTICULAR, OR CALVINISTIC BAPTISTS,***

Have a chapel on the south side of Park-street, adjoining the yard, which belongs to Collin's hospital. Though the date of its erection is lost, there is little doubt but it was the third place built in Nottingham for the use of dissenting worship. It measures sixty feet by twenty-seven. There is a burying ground belonging to the congregation, lying on the west side of Mount-street, nearly opposite to Mount-court. The erecting of a new chapel, in George-street, was begun in 1814, which measures sixty-three feet by fifty. Their present pastor is the Rev. John Jarman, whose conduct and labours as a christian minister, have rendered him highly respected by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

In 1805, a schism took place in this congregation, when a small party retired to a school room in Maltmill-lane. They afterwards joined a few Scotch Baptists, that had been knitting together about two years previous; and now, as a united body, under the pastorship of Mr. Samuel Ward, they are becoming numerous, as a sect of Scotch Baptists, and have bought the above-named chapel in Park-street. The Scotch Baptists, embrace the calvinistic tenets; and differ nowise materially from the sect of which we have just been speaking, except in church government.

### ***QUAKERS.***

This peculiarly distinguished sect took their rise when Cromwell was dashing away in all the plenitude of power. When a bird, which was hatched in a cage, has escaped from the wiry walls of its prison, it takes a hasty flight—flutters its wings—hops from twig to twig, to elude the arts of its pursuers—it seems to contemplate on its new situation; and occupies a considerable time in flying from bush to bush, as if in hopes of finding a place of greater security. And thus, when the combustible materials, of which polemical opinions in religious matters are composed, had taken fire, men began to contemplate, that it was dangerous to rest their hopes of future happiness upon the dogmas of another man's creed; and that the wrath of heaven might be the wages of their

own neglect, if they lost an opportunity, which a concatenation of circumstances had furnished, of diffusing those tenets which the different parts of scripture presented to their several understandings. Hence it was, that so many religious sects took their rise, immediately after the mounds of Romish superstition and bigotry had been broken down; and when the successful efforts in favor of liberty had given full vent to opinion. It has been concluded, and perhaps justly, that many men of late have commenced teachers of the gospel from mercenary motives; but this cannot be said with truth, of the religious heroes of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; since prisons and poverty were frequently the reward of their labours.

Among the worthies of that time was the celebrated George Fox, born at Fenny-Drayton, in Leicestershire, about the year 1624, where he preached his first sermon under a large tree, which was held in high veneration by his followers; and not at Drayton in Lancashire, as is falsely stated by some writers. It is variously stated that Fox was a shoe-maker, and a breeches-maker; but, be that as it may, it is certain that he was imprisoned in Nottingham in the year 1649, for setting the *inward* influence of the spirit, and the plain testimony of the scriptures in opposition to the *outward* forms and explanatory ceremonies of the other preachers. Fox, however, fell into very good hands; for, being committed to the keeping of John Reckless, one of the sheriffs, who took him to his house, where George, in the space of fourteen days' confinement, made such an impression on the sheriff's mind, that, at the end of that time, *he* absolutely preached Quakerism himself in the open market-place. Shortly after this, George Fox was taken before two Derbyshire magistrates, when, one of them, after scoffing at him, for his telling them to *tremble* at the word of the Lord, exclaimed, "Why, this man is a *Quaker*;" from which flippant expression, the *Friends*, as they term themselves, obtained their distinctive appellation; and not from the trembling and quaking of George Fox, as has erroneously been stated and generally believed.

By some writers this sect have been denominated Deists, by others Socinians, while others again have considered them Arminians. Whether all these notions be partly correct, or wholly groundless, I believe few, who are not Quakers, can determine, since to keep their tenets from public investigation has, with them, been a studied point. But, whatever be their *private principles*, their *public practice* is consistent: they take good care of their own poor—refuse to pay levies to support the established religion—have no set preachers—are regular in their religious worship—persecute none for differing with them in opinion—and, are charitable to all. And to their eternal honor, it may be added, that if the inhabitants of the earth were all Quakers, political harpies would not fatten on the miseries of mankind—the world would not be one vast slaughter-house—the Rhine and the Danube, and indeed the vast ocean itself would not be incarnadined with human blood; nor would widows and orphans have to seek their husbands and fathers in fields covered with gore, and mutilated trunks and scattered limbs; for swords would be beaten into ploughshares, and spears into pruninghooks, and nations would learn war no more.

The Quakers' chapel, which stands near the north end of Spaniel-row, was built in 1737, and cost £337 1s. 7d. They have a burying-ground near Walnutt-tree-lane.

### SION CHAPEL

stands in Halifax-street, opposite to one of the Methodist chapels: it was built in 1761, and measures 30 feet 4 inches, by 57 feet 6 inches. It was erected by a party that split from the Unitarians; but who shortly after rejoined them, at the solicitation of the Rev. George Walker. It was afterwards occupied by another party of Independents, but who were deprived of it about the year 1800. It then fell into the hands of a sect, under the pastorship of a Mr. Crockford, who belonged to the Calvinistic Methodists—the followers of the doctrine of George Whitfield; or, as they were generally called “Lady Huntington’s party.” Mr. Crockford was a man of most vehement passions, and possessed an unconquerable independency of mind; and, the proprietor of the chapel (it was private property) and he disagreeing, caused him to be discharged; and the chapel remained without either pastor or congregation a considerable time; but, in 1807, the congregation was re-united under the ministry of the Rev. John Bryan, whose suavity of disposition and urbanity of manners have secured to him the approbation of a respectable class of hearers.

### THE TABERNACLE,

which stood between Milton-street and Mount-east-street, was built by the followers of John Wesley in 1762, who disposed of it to the General Baptists in 1782; and they sold it to a cowkeeper of the name of Barnes, since which it has been taken down.

### THE SANDEMANIANS

erected a chapel in Hounds’-gate, in 1778. They owe the origin of their creed to John Glass, a minister of the church of Scotland, who, about the year 1728, was charged with a design of overturning the national faith. About the year 1755, Robert Sandeman, an elder in the church of Scotland (where these people are still called Glassites) took up the question of this new faith against a Mr. Hervey, who had written strongly against it; and hence this sect obtained the name of *Sandemanians*.

They maintain, that the kingdom of Christ is not of this world—that faith is neither more nor less than a simple assent to the divine testimony concerning Jesus Christ—and that belief in the scriptures is nothing more than a belief in any thing else, except what results from the divine authority on which they rest. Their peculiarities are—their weekly administration of the Lord’s supper—their love-feasts, of which every member is desired to partake, and which consist in their dining together every Sabbath, in the interval between the morning and afternoon service—their kiss of charity given at their love-feasts, at the admission of members, and at other times when they see necessary and proper—their washing each other’s feet—and that of a second marriage disqualifying a member from serving the office of elder. The principles of passive obedience and non-resistance, form with them a kind of theo-political creed. Mr. Prentice, late an opulent hosier, has long officiated as minister; but age and infirmities now disqualify him for the task.



## *METHODISTS.*

This very numerous and popular sect first held their meetings in this town, at the house of one James in Pelham-street, and their first preacher, independent of Mr. Wesley, was one William Lee, a tailor. They next assembled at the house of the late, and well-known Matthew Bagshaw, in Crosland-court, Narrow-marsh, who converted his house into an occasional meeting-house, by breaking a hole through the chamber floor, so that his voice (for he was the principal preacher) could be heard in the house and chamber at the same time. This practice was pursued until the congregation found the means of erecting the tabernacle, as before stated ; and, in 1782, the Hockley chapel was erected, which measures 52 feet 9 inches by 51 feet 2 inches.

The origin of this sect is so well-known, that a very few words on that subject shall suffice.—They sprung up at Oxford in 1729, under a Mr. Morgan, who soon after died, when John and Charles Wesley undertook the defence of his opinions ; and, in 1735, they were joined by the celebrated Whitfield. These three gentlemen, and from them their followers, obtained the name of Methodists from a brother student in the University observing, in consequence of the methodical manner in which they spent their time, that “ they (meaning the fellows at the college) had got a new “ set of *Methodists* among them ; ” alluding to some physicians who had formerly reduced the practice of physic at that place, to a regular *method*, in opposition to the strolling and *puffing* empirics, who, in every age of the world, have infested mankind with their nostrums, as the frogs did the land of Egypt.

In the year 1741, Mr. Whitfield split from the Wesleys ; he embracing the doctrine of Calvin, while they preferred the general part of the system taught by Arminius, who was a native of Leyden in Holland ; and who followed the doctrine of Beza, in opposition to that preached by Calvin. The following are the tenets taught by the Methodists which are extracted from a recent publication :—

1stly. The fall of man ; by which it is understood, that by disobedience Adam fell from the favor of his Maker, into a state of condemnation ; from a state of rectitude and happiness, into a state of disorder and misery ; and, in consequence of his fall, rendered himself liable to everlasting punishment. And that in consequence of the fall of Adam, all men bring a depraved nature with them into the world.—2dly. Universal Redemption by Jesus Christ ; and that by his death he made a full and perfect atonement for the sins of mankind.—3dly. Justification by faith ; by which is understood, the free and full pardon of past sins, and the acceptance of our persons ; which blessings are obtained by faith in the mercy of God, manifested through the Lord Jesus Christ ; and is evidenced on the part of a sinner by good works.—4thly. Complete or full Sanctification, by the Spirit of God, and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.—5thly. The necessity of holding fast faith and good works, in order to be saved to eternal life.

A considerable time previous to the death of Mr. John Wesley, which happened in 1791, it had been foretold, by many intelligent persons, that a schism would take place among his followers, when his influence had ceased to operate. In 1797, these predictions were verified. Dr. Priestley, when speaking of the leading men among the Methodists, made the following remarks :—“ Finding “ themselves by degrees at the head of a large body of people, and in considerable power and

"influence, they must not have been men, if they had not felt the love of power engrafted in such a situation; and they must have been more than men, if their subsequent conduct had not been influenced by it." "A shrewd hint," says Evans, "that Dr. Priestley thought the Methodists had been too remiss in their attention to their liberties, which they ought to have conveyed entire and unmutilated to posterity."

Many petitions were presented to the *Conference* by the people, to which some of the ministers subscribed, praying that they might have a share in the disposal of their own voluntary contributions, and also in the choice of those men, under whose ministry they were to sit; and, that they might have the Lord's supper administered among them. These petitions were voted out, and the consequences are well known. The inscriptions upon two monuments in Hockley chapel, will save me the trouble of giving a further relation of this business.

#### FIRST INSCRIPTION.

To the Memory of  
**THOMAS HANBY,**  
 Minister of the Gospel,  
 a zealous advocate for the Lord's Supper  
 among the Methodists :  
 from whom bigotry and human policy  
 had long withheld that privilege.  
 He often called this town his home,  
 and expressed a wish to end his days in it :  
 after faithfully discharging the  
 duties of the sacred office 43 years,  
 his desire was granted by  
 a release from mortality,  
 on the 29th day of December, 1796,  
 aged 63 years.

#### SECOND INSCRIPTION.

To the memory of  
**ALEXANDER KILHAM,**  
 Minister of the Gospel,  
 A faithful servant in the vineyard of Christ,  
 A zealous defender of the rights of the people,  
 against attempts to force on them  
 a Priestly Domination.  
 Deserted by many of his friends,  
 he lived to see the cause flourish,  
 in which he died a martyr.  
 In promoting the glory of God  
 and the happiness of his Brethren,  
 he counted nothing too dear a sacrifice :  
 In the pursuit,  
 ease and indulgence were despised by him.  
 His last hours  
 were peaceful and triumphant,  
 unblemished by a moment's repentance  
 for having opposed corruption in the church :  
 he blessed God,  
 that he had made him instrumental in doing it,  
 and only regretted  
 that he had not done it more faithfully.  
 Committing his soul to his Redeemer,  
 he took his flight to a better world,  
 December 20th, 1798,  
 aged 36 years.

Throsby says, an escutcheon, over the pulpit in this chapel, was placed there in memory of Lady Huntington. This is one of his gross blunders; for the hatchment was placed there in commemoration of the Rev. John Wesley. Probably, part of the dirt, with which Throsby so awkwardly attempted to bespatter a preacher in this chapel, fell in his eyes, and thereby prevented him discovering the truth.

The *new*, or *Kilhamite* Methodists lost a host in the death of their champion ; but they gained their independence and the privilege of partaking of the Lord's supper. And the *old* or *Weslean* Methodists, being deprived of the chapel, redoubled their efforts for the obtainment of another ; which object they accomplished in 1798. It stands on the east side of Halifax-street ; and, when first erected, it was about the size of the old one ; but has since been enlarged, and it now measures 84 feet 4 inches by 52 feet 10 inches, independent of a vestry and other conveniencies.

### THE GENERAL, OR ARMINIAN BAPTISTS

erected a chapel at the lower end of Plumptre-place, in 1799, and in front of it is a commodious burying ground. The building is 47 feet 9 inches by 47 feet 8 inches, independent of the vestry. The inside of the chapel possesses a neatness and simplicity of decoration, exactly corresponding with the manners, the habits, and the dress of the congregation. A close adherence to each other, when the clouds of adversity interpose their malignant influence, forms a prominent feature in the character of these people. Mr. Robert Smith is their pastor, whose powers of eloquence are far outshone by the mild, humane, and endearing qualities of his heart.

### ST. MARY'S-GATE CHAPEL.

The sect of Independents, previously mentioned as having lost Sion chapel, erected one on the west side of St. Mary's-gate, in 1801, which measures 41 feet 9 inches by 36 feet. Their minister is the Rev. John Green. They are, as the author has reason to understand, the followers of the Rev. ——— Ingham, one of the distinguished characters who united with the Messrs. Wesley and Whitfield, in promoting the future happiness of mankind. But, they are generally considered *Sabellians*, who took their rise from Sabellius, an Egyptian philosopher, that lived in the third century. The Sabellians maintain, that there is but one person in the Godhead—that the word and the Holy Ghost are mere virtues, emanations, or functions of the Deity—that He, who is in heaven, is the father of all things—that He descended into the virgin, became a child, and was born of her as a son—and, that, having accomplished the mystery of man's salvation, He diffused himself on the apostles in tongues of fire.

### HEPHZIBAH CHAPEL.

After Mr. Crockford and his followers had been deprived of Sion chapel, they found means, in 1804, to erect a new one in Broad-lane-paddock, to which they gave the above Hebrew name, which, in English signifies *my pleasure*. But, unfortunately for Mr. Crockford, the *pleasure* was of short duration ; for his hearers neglecting to make good the necessary payments, the chapel was advertised, and, in March 1808, sold to the Universalists, of whom we are about to speak.

### UNIVERSALISTS.

This sect, like the Sabellians, had their origin in the fructifying climate of the east : Origen, who died in the year 254, laid the foundation of their faith. St. Augustine of Hippo, who died in 431, when speaking of some divines, that had embraced this doctrine, calls them *merciful*

*doctors.* From this time we hear no more of Universalism, till about the year 1500, when it was revived by the German Baptists, and by the Mennonites, or Dutch Baptists. In the seventeenth century the question was taken up in this kingdom by Dr. Rust and Jeremiah White; and since by Dr. Newton, bishop of Bristol, Mr. Stonehouse, rector of Islington, Mr. Elhanan Winchester, Dr. Hartley, Mr. Purves, &c.; and by Dr. Chauncey, of Boston in America. They embrace the beauties, and *cast out*, what they term the imperfections of Calvinism, and Arminianism; and believe in universal restoration.—The following is an epitome of their arguments.

They found their tenets upon the *power*, the *will*, the *justice*, and the *mercy* of God. They contend, first, as God has the power to create and make us perfect, that his not having done so is an act of his will; and that to doom any portion of mankind to endless punishment, merely because, by an act of his will, he has suffered them to sin, would make his will to spring from a principle of the grossest injustice; and, consequently, would justify an opinion, that he is an unjust God—2dly. That, if he has the power to save all mankind, and not the will so to do it, would destroy his mercy—and that, if he has the will to exercise his mercy, and not the power, it would destroy his omnipotence, and, consequently he ceases to be a God, except such a one as results from the heated fancy of man—3dly. That if the attribute of mercy does not consist in its exercise, the consequence, as far as relates to the Deity, is nothing but a name; and that this attribute, which so much endears the governed to the governor, and brightens up the character of the judge and the magistrate, is not an emanation from the Divinity, but a direct contradiction to the display of his goodness.—4thly. That if God delights in the endless punishment of his creatures (and if he permit it, and has the power to prevent it, he must either delight in it, or be regardless of their welfare) it destroys his justice, his love, and his mercy; and constitutes him a cruel, a merciless, and an inexorable tyrant.—Such are the heads of their arguments; and their tenets are—1stly. That Christ died to make atonement for the sins of all mankind, and likewise for those of the fallen angels—2ndly. That God's justice and mercy have no alloy—3dly. That God's elect are those whose sins are forgiven before death, and whose souls are translated from earth to heaven, immediately on the demise of their respective bodies—And, 4thly. That, those who die in sin will have punishment inflicted hereafter, corresponding with the number and magnitude of their crimes in this life; after which they will be restored to divine favor.

In 1806, this sect converted a building in Plumptre-street into a chapel, to which they gave the name of *Bethel chapel*, or the *house of God*; but poverty soon scattered their congregation, and, they continued in that state, till the dissolution of Mr. Crockford's party, as stated above. The same prying enemy to human happiness brought upon them a second dissolution; and they are now extinct, except the remains of another party of the same sect, which sprung up in 1804, and now hold their Meetings in Clare-street, headed by Mr. J. Fisher, better known as *Doctor Fisher*, from his being a compounder and vender of nostrums.

Bethel chapel is now called *Providence chapel*; and is occupied by an inconsiderable party of *Huntingtonians*, without a regular preacher, they being adherents to the tenets of the late William Huntington, of coal-heaving celebrity.

## *THE ROMAN CATHOLICS*

have a chapel at the west end of King's-place, Stoney-street, where they enjoy, as they ought to do, their faith and prejudices in peace.

What various notions, different men embrace,  
Of justice, mercy, love, and faith, and grace ;  
Yet *all* unite in one important end—  
Each hopes in heaven to find himself and friend.

\* \* \* As a gross error found its way into the 40th page, respecting the meridian of the town, the author takes this opportunity of correcting it, by giving the following statement :—The latitude of the Exchange, at Nottingham, is 52 degrees, 59 minutes, 35 seconds, north ; longitude, west of St. Paul's 1 degree and 7 minutes, or in time 4 minutes and 28 seconds difference of the meridian ; and west of Greenwich observatory 1 degree, 12 minutes and 47 seconds, or in time 4 minutes and 51 seconds difference of meridian.

## CHAPTER V.

### SCHOOLS AND BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.

MAN, without education, would be little better than the beast in the field : he would learn hospitality from interest ; and the means of procuring food and raiment from necessity ; but, to the noble qualities which exalt the soul, and harmonize the mind, he would be a stranger. The infant mind may be compared to an unprinted bookleaf after — leaf becomes unfolded, and receives impressions from the instinctive powers of perceptibility ; but, when wrong impressions are made, difficult is the task to eradicate them. In this state of the mind, notions too often become implanted, that *might* constitutes *right* ; from which we may infer, that every moral lesson taught a child (and all education should be accompanied with moral precepts) is the preventive of a crime. From this view of the case, what consolation must arise in the breast of him, who volunteers his time and talents to instruct the children of poverty !

## *FREE-SCHOOL, IN STONEY-STREET.*

We cannot better illustrate the intent of this institution, than by giving a copy of the foundation deed, which is as follows :—

“ To all christian people, to whose knowledge this present writing triplicate indented shall come  
“ to be seen or read, *Agnes Mellers*, widow and vowess, sendeth greeting, in him that is the root  
“ of *Jesse*, produced to the salvation of all people.

“ Whereas the most excellent and famous prince King Henry the Eighth, of his right blessed disposition, and mere mercy, by his letters' patent sealed under his great seal, has licensed, authorized, and granted, to his well-beloved counsellor *Thomas Lovel*, Knight, treasurer of his most honorable household, and me the said *Agnes*, and our executors, and to every one of us, licence, power, and authority, to begin, found, and erect, unite, create, and establish, one free-school, of one schoolmaster and one usher, perpetually to be kept in the parish of our lady in the town of Nottingham, for evermore to endure after the ordering, institution, and will of us, the said *Thomas* and the said *Agnes*, or one of us, our executors or assignees, or the executors of either of us hereafter to be made, and further things, as in the same letters patent more plainly appeareth.

“ Know ye, that I, remembering how the universal faith catholic by clergy and commons most firmly corroborated, and by learning the public weal commonly is governed, ardently have designed to the honor of Almighty God, laud and praise to the elect and chosen mother of mercy and virgin, our lady St. Mary, to accomplish the said virtuous and blessed grant, and by force thereof, begin, erect, found, create, establish, and make one free-school, of one master and one usher, to teach grammar everlastingly to endure, and to be kept in the parish of our blessed lady St. Mary the virgin, within the town of Nottingham, willing, ordaining, and establishing, that the said school be evermore called the free-school of the town of Nottingham. And John Smith, parson, of Bilborough, I make schoolmaster of the same, as long as it shall seem to me and the mayor of the said town of Nottingham for the time being convenient. And to my right trusty friends *Mr. William English* and *William Barwell*, I make deputies, and ordain guardians, keepers, and surveyors of the said free-school during their lives : I will also, ordain and establish, that the mayor, aldermen, and common council of the said town of Nottingham and their successors, after the decease of the said *Williams*, shall yearly, from year to year, on the feast of the translation of St. Richard, the bishop, choose two discreet persons, burgesses, to be chamberlains, guardians, keepers, and surveyors of the lands and tenements and possessions, pertaining and bequeathed, given, or hereafter to be given and bequeathed and belonging to the said free-school, to rule, govern, and support, the charges, payments, and business of the same, from the same feast of translation, to the said feast of St. Richard next following, at which feast, or within eight days then next following, I will that the said guardians, now by me named, or hereafter to be named, made and elected, shall make account to the said mayor and aldermen, and their successors, of all things by them received or taken to the use of the said foundation, and after their accounts so made and finished, new guardians, or else the same, by the advice and discretion of the said mayor and alderman to be elected and chosen, and that the same guardians, keepers, and surveyors, by the name of the guardians of the free-school of Nottingham may plead and be impleaded before all judges of every court, and also writs and actions maintain and have. Moreover, I will that the said mayor, aldermen, and common council of the said town of Nottingham, with the guardians, that now be of the said school, or hereafter shall be, or eight of them at the least, whereof the mayor and guardians of the same free-school, I will, shall be three, after the decease of the said Mr. John Smith, parson, of Bilborough, or after

“ such time as it shall fortune that the said Mr. John Smith, shall leave or be removed from the said  
 “ office of schoolmaster, shall conduct and hire one other able person of good and honest  
 “ conversation, to be schoolmaster of the said free-school, and one usher, at such time, and as soon  
 “ as the lands and possessions given to the said free-school, will support the charge thereof, and  
 “ the same schoolmaster and usher, for good and reasonable causes, or either of them, to amove  
 “ and expel, and others in his or their stead, to take, retain, and put in, from time to time, as often  
 “ and when they shall think requisite and necessary.

“ And furthermore, I will and ordain, that the schoolmaster for the time being, and his usher,  
 “ or one of them, shall daily, when he keeps school, cause the scholars every morning in their  
 “ school-house, ere they begin their learning, to say, with an high voice the whole *credo in deum*  
 “ *patrem, &c.*

“ Also, I ordain and establish, that the guardians of the said free-school for the time being  
 “ and their successors, shall yearly on the feast of the translation of St. Richard, which is the 16th  
 “ of June, keep or cause to be kept and done solemnly in the church of St. Mary in Nottingham,  
 “ the *Obiit* of the said Agnes Mellers, my husband's and mine after my decease, and give, pay  
 “ and expend, of the rents, issues, and profits, given and bequeathed, pertaining and belonging  
 “ to the said free-school, for our souls' health, 20s. in form following:—that is to say, to the vicar  
 “ of the said church, personally being present, from the beginning of the dirge and mass of  
 “ the same *Obiit*, to the ending thereof, for his attendance, and for his lights at that time burning  
 “ 3s. and if he occupy by deputy, then to have but 2s.; and to every priest of the same church,  
 “ and either of the clerks of the said parish, there also being for such like time 4d. and also to the  
 “ mayor of the town of Nottingham, for the time, being personally present at the beginning and  
 “ ending of the same mass and dirge 6d. and to every alderman of the same town, there also being  
 “ present for such like time 4d., and the mayor's clerk and his two serjeants being and attending  
 “ on their master and aldermen at the beginning of the said mass and dirge, and and for serving  
 “ such things as shall be prepared for them at the *Obiit*, to each of them 2d., and to the parish  
 “ clerks for the great bells ringing eight peals, and after the accustomed length, 3s.; and the  
 “ said guardians shall retain and keep in their own hands, for either of them for their own use—  
 “ for their business and attendance, in providing bread, ale, and cheese, and towels, cups, pots,  
 “ and necessary things at the said *Obiit*; and there shall be expended in bread, to be sent to the  
 “ aldermen, &c. according to the custom in the church 2s. in cheese 8d. in ale 16d., and the residue  
 “ remaining over this mine ordinance and will performed, if any be left, I will shall be distributed  
 “ to the poorest scholars of the said free-school, to pray for our souls and all of our friends.

“ I will also, ordain and establish and strictly enjoin, that the schoolmaster and usher, nor any  
 “ of them, have, make, nor use, any potations, cockfighting, nor drinking with his or their wife or  
 “ wives, hostess or hostesses, but once or twice in the year, nor take any other gifts or vails,  
 “ whereby the scholars or their friends shall be charged, but at the pleasure of the friends of the  
 “ scholars—wages to be paid by the said guardians.

“ And here if it fortune the said mayor, aldermen, and common council, to be negligent and  
 “ forgetful in finding and choosing of the schoolmaster and usher, forty days next after such time

“ as it shall fortune him to be amoved, or deceased, keeping and doing the *Obiit* yearly, in manner  
 “ and form above expressed in such like time ; or the lands and tenements or hereditaments, and  
 “ other possessions, or the yearly rent of them into other uses than finding of the said free-school,  
 “ to convert ; then I will, ordain, and establish, that the prior and convent of the monastery of the  
 “ Holy Trinity of Lenton, for the time being, and their successors, shall have as a forfeiture, the  
 “ rule guiding and oversight of the said lands, tenements, or hereditaments, &c. schoolmaster,  
 “ with all other things to the premises in anywise appertaining, to the intent above expressed, in  
 “ as ample and large-wise as the mayor and burgesses have or should have had the same, by this  
 “ my present constitution and ordinance.

“ Also, I do ordain, and establish, that the ordinances, statutes, and establishments, and  
 “ constitutions, for the good governance and rule of the said free-school, by me made in my life,  
 “ under my seal, by me determined, everlastingly to be kept, and each one of them steadfastly  
 “ shall be holden, observed, and kept for ever, without any diminution or abridgment, or changing  
 “ of them or any of them anywise, and that it shall be lawful to the said mayor, aldermen, and  
 “ common council, and their successors at all times hereafter, from time to time, at their liberty,  
 “ other constitutions, statutes, and ordinances, for the good governance and continuance of the said  
 “ free-school to make, them or part of them by their discretion to repeal, and admit at their  
 “ pleasures as often and whensoever they shall think it most necessary and convenient, so that such  
 “ constitutions, statutes, and ordinances, of new to be made, nor any of them, be in anywise  
 “ contrary or repugnant to the statutes, and establishments, and ordinances by me, in my life,  
 “ under my seal, made, written and determined. In witness whereof, &c. &c. November the 22d,  
 “ the 4th of King Henry the Eighth, 1513.”

Richard Mellers, husband of the foundress, was a belfounder in this town, by which business he acquired a competent fortune. Robert Mellers, who succeeded his father in the business, became a benefactor to this school, for, by his will, bearing date July 16th, 1515, he bequeathed to it a close in Basford, in a place called the *wong*, and a house on the west side of Bridlesmith-gate, which is the *fifth* distinct house, though now the *sixth* tenement, from the top of Peter-gate. Thomas Mellers, brother to the last testator, by his will dated the 16th August, 1535, left as follows :—“ *Item.* I bequeath and give all my lands, tenements, and hereditaments, in the town  
 “ and fields of Basford in the county of Nottingham, to the use of the free-school lately founded  
 “ in the said town of Nottingham by dame *Agnes Mellers*, my mother, deceased, for ever.” The *former* of these gentlemen represented Nottingham in parliament, and the latter was mayor of the town.

Three tenements, situate in Blackfriars, London, were left by John Wast, brewer of that city, for the benefit of this institution ; but which, along with the property at Basford, left by the foundress's two sons, were sold by the Corporation to support a law suit against Richard Johnson, master of the school, sometime between the years 1702, and 1720.\*

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\* Such is the power invested in trustees to public institutions, that they can sell a part of the property to enable them to retain, and properly apply the rest. This might be a caution to the freemen of any city or borough, not to harrass corporate bodies with vexatious law-suits, as the mischief must inevitably fall upon themselves or their posterity.



John Hesky, alderman, by his will of the 29th of September, 1558, gave the property of the tithes in Nottingham fields and meadows, in trust to the Corporation, for the use of this school ; as also a house in Carlton-street, save and except that ten shillings, part of such income, should be distributed to the poor on the annual *Obiit* of the foundress.

John Parker, alderman, by his will bearing date the 26th of October, 1693, left the means of furnishing a library to this school. The alderman had lent the Corporation an hundred pounds, for which he held Butcher's-close on lease, which lease, at the date of the will, had twelve years to run. Testator directed Thomas Trigg, James Farewell, and John Rickards, trustees to his will, to let the interest of this hundred pounds remain with the Corporation during the twelve years, at the end of which time the principal and interest united to be applied to the purchasing of as much land as should produce twenty pounds annual rent ; or, in default of such money not being sufficient for the purpose, the residue to be supplied out of the proceeds of his other estates.\* This sum was to be appropriated to charitable purposes, such as twenty shillings a year to the vicar of St. Mary's for preaching a sermon on *christian love and charity* on Easter-eve ; twenty shillings to be given in bread to the poor the same day ; the same sum to the town clerk of Nottingham for keeping the account of its expenditure ; and nine pounds every other year for the putting three poor boys apprentice, at the discretion of the Corporation, with three pounds to be paid to each boy when out of his time, providing he conducted himself properly during his apprenticeship. The will then proceeds :—" And that my said trustees for the time being, shall " employ and bestow ten pounds, part of the second year's rents and profits of the said lands " in the purchasing of books, such as they shall think fit, for the first founding and beginning " of a library for the use and benefit of the master and scholars of the free-school in Nottingham ; " and so alternately to the end of eight years—nine pounds a year to put out apprentices, " and ten pounds to buy books." The will further states, " if any apprentice should die or " miscarry in his apprenticeship, his three pounds to buy books for the free-school." And again, " the books to be so bought to be lettered outside, J. PARKER, and a catalogue thereof kept by the " town clerk." The first purchase made for this library was in 1707, when *twelve* books were bought ; in 1709, *seven* more ; in 1711, *twelve* ; in 1713, *four* ; in 1723, an atlas was bought ; in 1727, *eight* books were added ; in 1736, a pair of globes were bought, but they were taken away by alderman Worthington sometime about the year 1799, and as they were in his possession when he died, they were seized upon by his executors and therefore lost to the school ; but another pair have been substituted. In 1738, *twenty-four* books were added ; in 1745, *two* ; in 1748, *twelve* ; in 1758, *twelve*, which consisted of Rollin's Ancient History ; in 1766, *nineteen* ; in 1767, *sixteen* ; in —, *seven* ; and, in 1810, Alderman Ashwell being school-warden, he added *twenty-nine*, which, with the exception of Rollin's History, constitute near the whole value of the library.†

Four small closes, which lie between Trough-close and Free-school-lane, north of the town, belong

\* The property from whence these charities arise, lies at Harby, in Leicestershire, and is held by a person of the name of Orson.

† Richard Sterne, created Archbishop of York, by Charles the Second, received his early education at this school.

to this institution, as do several houses at the south end of Broad-lane, and others in St. Peter's-gate and Peter's-church-yard, &c.

The benevolent intentions of the donors to this institution were long frustrated, by nothing being taught in the school but the dead languages; for those persons who could afford to give their children an English education, sufficient to qualify them for a course of learning in the dead languages, generally sent them to the regular academies; and those who could not do this, either wanted the means or the inclination to obtain admission for their offspring; therefore the offices of master and usher were similar to that of keeper of the king's hawks—they were truly sinecures; but, as may be seen by the following order of common hall, the evil is removed; nor is the benefaction any longer confined to the children of burgesses.

*“TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM, TO WIT.*

“At a common hall, or meeting of the mayor and common council in and for the said town, on Tuesday the 17th of February, 1807.

“In pursuance of the power and authority committed to us, the mayor, aldermen, and common council of the town of Nottingham, by the deed of foundation of Agnes Mellers, widow, foundress of the free-school, of the said town, we do (in addition to the regulations contained in the said deed of foundation) order and establish the following ordinances and constitution for the future governance and continuance of the said free-school, hereby repealing any constitution, statutes, or ordinances heretofore made by the mayor, aldermen, and common council of the said town of Nottingham, which may be in anywise contradictory or repugnant to the present ordinances, or any of them.

“1st. We do ordain, that for the future the said free-school, shall be kept open for the whole year, except two vacations of a calendar month each, at Christmas and Midsummer, in every year, for the reception of scholars entitled to be taught thereat, to be admitted by the schoolwardens, according to the form and in the manner hereafter described, during seven hours and a half in every day in the summer half year, reckoning the same from Lady-day till Michaelmas, and six hours in every day in the winter half year, reckoning the same from Michaelmas till Lady-day, (except Sundays and the following holidays; viz. two days at Easter, two days at Whitsuntide, two days at Goose Fair, Good Friday, and half-a-day's holiday on the afternoon of Saturday, and a holiday of one hour in the afternoon of every Wednesday,) for the teaching of Greek and Latin, and English grammar, and the classics, so that every scholar admitted be the age of eight years at the least, and so that no more than the number of sixty scholars be admitted upon the foundation at any one period of time.

“2ndly. That all persons entitled to claim admission upon the foundation of the school, from the mayor and burgesses, shall apply by a written application to the mayor for the time being, who shall give in the names of the applicants to the common-hall, who shall order their admission, as far as the school shall be capable of receiving them; and upon a list of the persons admitted, certified under the hand of the town clerk, the schoolwardens of the said free-school for the time being, shall give in an order for their admission upon the foundation, which shall entitle them to be educated in English, Latin, and Greek grammar, at the said school, gratis.

“ 3dly. The Schoolwardens for the time being shall, upon the application of any person or persons, entitled to be admitted to the said free-school, by virtue of such determination of the corporation, certified by the town-clerk, to the schoolwardens, give to such person or persons, so entitled, an order or orders in writing to the master or usher of the said free-school, to receive him or them as a scholar or scholars upon the foundation : and by virtue of such order, he or they shall be entitled to all the privileges of the school, so long as he or they shall conform to the discipline thereof, established by the master, without paying any thing by way of fee, reward, or gratuity, to the master or usher in respect thereof; but the said master or usher shall not be obliged to receive any person, not producing a written order for that purpose from the schoolwardens for the time being.

“ 4thly. That the mayor, aldermen, and common council of Nottingham, being visitors of this free-school, do hereby ordain and establish, with a view to the regular and punctual performance of their duty as visitors, that the mayor, aldermen, and schoolwardens for the time being, shall, from time to time, inspect the free-school, and report at least once in every half year, in writing to the common hall, the number of scholars, which, during the preceding half year, have been educated upon the foundation of the school, and their opinion of the general conduct and management, and state of the discipline thereof, in order that the visitors may be regularly informed as to the existing situation of the school, and may from time to time be enabled to bestow annual gratuities in proportion to the number of the scholars, and the exertions of the master and usher, and the corresponding prosperity of the school, to the end that due encouragement may be given to the industry of the master and usher, and that the said school may be rendered of the greatest possible utility, according to the design of the foundation.

5thly. That these ordinances be made known to the master and usher of the free-school, who are enjoined to an observance thereof; and that any wilful neglect thereof in such master or usher, or either of them, be deemed by the mayor, aldermen, and common council, a sufficient cause of a motion of the said master or usher from their respective offices, pursuant to the power vested in the mayor, aldermen, and common council, by the foundation of the said school.”

N. B. By advice of the Corporation, the master provides proper persons to teach the boys writing and arithmetic, for which the friends of the scholar pay ten shillings a year; the schoolwardens providing all the requisite materials.

From the death of the Rev. John Smith, no list of the masters was kept till the year 1626; and no list of ushers was kept till the year 1669.

#### *LIST OF THE MASTERS.*

— The Rev. John Smith  
 1626 The Rev. ——— Tibbalds  
 1630 The Rev. Thomas Leek  
 1641 The Rev. ——— Balston  
 1663 The Rev. Henry Pits  
 1664 The Rev. Samuel Birch  
 1673 The Rev. Jeremiah Chudworth  
 1690 The Rev. Gawen Knight

#### *LIST OF THE USHERS.*

1669 The Rev. William Bradshaw  
 1672 The Rev. ——— Vroyne  
 1681 The Rev. John Littlefeare  
 1686 The Rev. Samuel Birch  
 1708 The Rev. John Lamb  
 1709 The Rev. John Clarke  
 1709 The Rev. John Peake  
 1714 The Rev. George Bettinson

*List of the Masters continued.*

1692 The Rev. Edward Griffith  
 1707 The Rev. Richard Johnson\*  
 1718 The Rev. William Smeaton  
 1719 The Rev. William Saunders  
 1720 The Rev. ——— Woamack  
 1722 The Rev. John Swaile  
 1731 The Rev. John Henson  
 1758 The Rev. Timothy Wylde  
 1793 The Rev. John Forrest  
 1807 The Rev. John Toplis, B. D.

*List of the Ushers continued.*

1724 The Rev. John Henson  
 1732 The Rev. George Wayte  
 1747 The Rev. Thomas Nixon  
 1758 The Rev. Francis Henson  
 1766 The Rev. Samuel Berdmore  
 ——— The Rev. William Fell  
 ——— The Rev. William Anderson  
 1789 The Rev. Leonard Chapman  
 1790 Robert Wood, D. D.

The school has undergone considerable repairs at sundry times since its erection, particularly in the years 1689, 1708, and 1792. The house adjoining it, which is set apart for the use of the master, is commodious, and in a good state of repair.

On the north side of the High-pavement, and facing the top of Charity-school-hill, stands

**THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL.**

Upon a brass plate, which was found under the front steps, when they were removed in 1804, is the following inscription :—" Nottingham Charity School, founded in 1706, and supported by the " contributions of the Corporation and others, was, in 1723, removed to this building, which was " erected for the use of, and benefit of such school, at the charge of many benefactors, in and " nigh this town, upon a piece of ground given by Mr. William Thorpe for that purpose."

Mr. Thorpe was an attorney-at-law, as was likewise Mr. Thomas Saunderson, who, in a few years after the school was erected, left a legacy of forty shillings a year towards its support. In 1805, the school was new roofed, and the front was stuccoed ; but the statues, which represent a boy and a girl in their school costume, still remain in the niches.—The following rules and orders, published in 1793, for the use of the trustees, master, &c. will sufficiently explain the nature of this institution.

**" RULES AND ORDERS.**

" 1st. That eighty be the number of children to be admitted into the school, to be clothed, " whereof sixty to be boys and twenty girls ; who are to be chosen between the age of eight and " eleven, and continue at school a year *at the least* ; otherwise to be stript of their clothes. That " forty to be chosen out of the parish of St. Mary, and twenty out of the other two parishes of St. " Peter and St. Nicholas ; and as the subscriptions to this charity increase, the number of children " to be advanced in that proportion.

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\* The Corporation brought an action against this man to remove him for incapacity ; but, previous to its being brought into court, he obtained all the aldermen's signatures to a paper, expressive of his capability to teach a school, under pretence of obtaining another school, professing himself conscious that he must lose his situation as master of the free-school ; but he cunningly presented this paper in court as evidence of his capability ; and the Corporation thereby lost the suit. In the course of the trial, one of the counsel, who was employed by the Corporation, said to Johnson, who was esteemed of unsound mind, " Mr. Johnson, I think I may say to you, as Festus " said to St. Paul,—too much learning has made thee mad !" To which Johnson immediately replied, " truly, Sir, but, if you should go " mad, no one will say the same of you !" This brought such a peal of laughter upon the counsel as caused him to sit down in peace.

“ 2dly. That each of the said boys have every year, one coat, one waistcoat, one pair of breeches, two shirts, two pairs of shoes, two pairs of stockings, two bands, one round bonnet, tuft and string, and two pairs of buckles. And each girl, one gown and petticoat, two shifts, two aprons, two pairs of shoes, two pairs of stockings, two caps, one ribband, two tippets, and two pairs of buckles, given them yearly, in May, or at such other times as the trustees think proper.

“ 3dly. That the said boys shall wear their coats, bands, stockings, and bonnets,—and the girls their gowns and petticoats, caps and tippets every day, so as the trustees and other benefactors may know them, and see what their behaviour is abroad.

“ 4thly. That in the election of children, regard shall be first and principally had to orphans,—and in the next place, to such as have most children and least to maintain them with, so as strict care be taken that none be admitted but those who are real objects of charity, and not any who are chargeable to the parish, or whose parents receive relief therefrom; and that the choice be always impartially made, without respect to friends or interest.

“ 5thly. That no children shall be admitted but such as are healthy and strong, and free from any contagious distemper: and, to prevent being imposed on, the trustees shall carefully view and examine each child before his or her admission.

“ 6thly. The master shall constantly attend his proper business in the school every year, from seven to eleven in the morning, and from one to five in the evening, betwixt the first day of March, and the last of September inclusive; and from eight to eleven in the morning, and from one to four in the afternoon, betwixt the first day of October, and the last of February inclusive. And the mistress shall give due attendance to perform her part. And that the children may be speedily improved, they shall not be permitted to break up above three times in the year,—at the three great festivals, viz. Christmas, Easter, and Whitsuntide,—and that for no longer time than other petty schools.

“ 7thly. The master and mistress shall every day carefully observe,—that every child come into the school clean washed and combed; and that their clothes be neat and whole; and that they do not tear or abuse their books; and likewise that they do not loiter or play the truant, but constantly and exactly (if well) be at school at the hours and times above appointed. And the master shall keep a monthly journal or table of the children's absence, neglects, or faults, to be laid before the trustees at their meetings, in order to redress the same. And, for his more exactness herein, the childrens' names shall be called over in the school every morning and afternoon, half an hour after the time appointed for their coming, and the transgressors marked in the fault bill, whether absent or tardy.

“ 8thly. This school being only intended for the benefit of such poor children whose parents or friends are not able to give them learning, the master or mistress shall not receive or demand any money, or other gratification of the childrens' friends, at their entrance or breaking up, or upon any other pretence whatsoever: neither shall the master or mistress teach any other children besides the poor children belonging to this school; but shall content themselves with their salaries, upon pain of forfeiting their places.

“ 9thly. The master shall teach the children the true spelling of words, and distinction of

“ syllables, with the points and stops which are necessary to true reading. They shall also be taught to write a fair legible hand, and the rudiments of practical arithmetic, viz. the first five rules. And the mistress shall teach the girls to mend their own clothes, work plain work, and to knit. And both boys and girls shall be taught to sing psalms, and a mannerly behaviour towards all persons: all which, being duly performed, will the better fit them for service or apprenticeships.

“ 10thly. That the principal design of this school may be effectually answered, which is,—to train up poor children in the knowledge of God and religion, as taught in the church of England, the master and mistress shall instruct the scholars in the principles of the christian religion, as laid down in the church catechism, which they shall be taught first to pronounce distinctly and plainly, and then, for their better understanding thereof, in order to practice, the master shall explain it to them, by the help of Lewis’s or other proper Exposition: and this shall be done, at least, twice a week. The master shall also bring and accompany the children to St. Mary’s church every Lord’s-day, morning and afternoon, to hear divine service and sermon; and every Holy-day, Wednesday, and Friday, to prayers, once in the day, at least; and shall teach them to behave themselves with all reverence while they are in the house of God; and duly to make their reponses, kneel, and to join in the other public services of the church: for which ends they are always to have their Bibles and Common Prayer-books with them.

“ 11thly. The master and mistress shall take special care of the manners and behaviour of the children, seriously endeavouring, by all means, to impress the principles of the fear of God, of christian truth, justice, integrity, patience, temperance, and all good morals, on their hearts and consciences; and to discourage and root out the very beginnings of vice, particularly lying, swearing, cursing, stealing, taking God’s name in vain, profanation of the Sabbath-day, idleness, disobedience to parents or superiors, or the like, not only by corporeal correction, but, at the same time reminding them of the due reverence and love of God, the honor of his name, word and day; times, persons, and places; with a lively faith and hope in the blessed Son and Spirit: and that they are to live in love, peace, and friendship one amongst another, and to avoid bad words, quarrelling, and revenge,

“ 12thly. The master and mistress shall use prayer every evening in the school, immediately before the children are dismissed; and shall teach and direct the children to say their private prayers when they go to bed and rise.

“ 13thly. The master or mistress shall give to the children some exercise every Saturday night, and eve of an Holy-day, either to get part of a psalm, or practical chapter in the Old or New Testament, or collect, by art, or write it down, or else a sum or question in arithmetic; by which means they may employ their minds at vacant hours.

“ 14thly. That for the satisfaction of all the present contributors, and encourage other persons to become so, there shall be an annual public examination of the children, in the several parish churches of St. Mary, St. Peter, and St. Nicholas, before the trustees, subscribers, and what other persons think fit to be present; whereby it may be known how they improve in learning and knowledge.

“ 15thly. That to encourage parents to suffer their children, after they are chosen, to continue

“ in the school till they are duly qualified to leave the same, and for the better bringing up of boys  
 “ to mechanical trades, it is agreed by the trustees,—that such children as quit the school with the  
 “ approbation of the said trustees, testified by some memorandum entered in their book, at any of  
 “ their public meetings, shall take their bibles along with them; and also,—that the treasurer for  
 “ the time being, shall pay to the respective master to whom every such boy shall be bound  
 “ apprentice, with such approbation so testified, the sum of five guineas, towards putting him out,  
 “ to be paid by five annual and equal payments :—and every girl that has continued her full time  
 “ in the school, and behaved to the satisfaction of the trustees, shall, at her leaving the school, have  
 “ two guineas expended in such clothes for her as the trustees shall think proper.”

*The Master to be chosen for this School to be*

“ 1st. A member of the Church of England, of a sober life and conversation, and not under the  
 “ age of twenty-five years.

“ 2dly. One that frequents the Holy Communion.

“ 3dly. One that hath a good government of himself and passions.

“ 4thly. *One of a meek temper and humble behaviour.*

“ 5thly. One of a good genius for teaching.

“ 6thly. One who understands well the grounds and principles of the Christian Religion, and is  
 “ able to give a good account thereof to the minister of the parish, or ordinary, on examination.

“ 7thly. One that writes a good hand, and who understands the grounds of arithmetic.

“ 8thly. One who keeps good order in his family.

“ 9thly. One who is approved by the minister of the parish, (being a subscriber,) before he be  
 “ presented to be licenced by the ordinary.”

*The following orders shall be read to the parents, on the admittance of their children  
 into the said Charity School, and be duly observed.*

“ 1st. That the parents constantly send their children to school at the school hours, and keep  
 “ them at home on no pretence whatever, except in case of sickness, and then they shall give  
 “ information thereof to the master.

“ 2dly. That they send their children clean washed and combed, with their clothes neat and whole.

“ 3dly. That they correct their children for such faults as they commit at home, or inform their  
 “ master of them; whereby the whole behaviour of their children may be the better ordered.

“ 4thly. That, as the subscribers to this school will take due care that the children shall suffer no  
 “ injuries by their master’s correction, (which is only designed for their good,) the parents shall  
 “ freely submit to their children undergoing the discipline of the school, when guilty of any fault,  
 “ and forbear coming there on such occasions; so that the children may not be countenanced in  
 “ their faults, nor the master or mistress interrupted or discouraged in the performance of their  
 “ duty.—But if they shall have any great matter of complaint against the master or mistress, they  
 “ shall acquaint the trustees thereof, at the public meetings.

“ 5thly. That they set them good examples, and keep them in good order, when at home.

“ 6thly. That this school may not only serve for the instruction and benefit of the children, but  
 “ also of their parents, particularly of such as cannot read; they, for their own sakes as well as

“ their children’s, are frequently to call on them, at home, to repeat their catechism, and read the  
 “ holy scriptures, especially on the Lord’s day ; and to use prayer, morning and evening, in their  
 “ families : so that all may be the better informed of their duty, and, by a constant and sincere  
 “ practice thereof, procure the blessings of God upon them.

“ 7thly. That the parents set or hang this *table of orders* in some visible and convenient place  
 “ in their houses, and keep it from being torn, defaced, or destroyed, as long as they can.

“ 8thly. If the parents do not observe the said orders, their children are to be dismissed the  
 “ school, and to forfeit their school clothes.

“ N. B. These orders extend to those that have the care of orphans, as well as to parents.

“ \* \* For the better observing these rules and orders, it is agreed,—that they shall be hung up  
 “ in a frame in some convenient place in the school, and in the room where the trustees usually  
 “ meet ; and,—that the trustees and childrens’ parents, or persons with whom they lodge, have  
 “ each of them a copy hereof.”

“ *For ye have the poor with you always ; and whensoever ye will, ye may do them good,*”—ST. MARK, C. XIV. v. 7.

Without wishing, in the smallest degree, to impeach the purity of intention, with which these rules and orders were dictated, it is next to an impossibility for a *parent* not to lament, that more distinguishing bounds were not prescribed to the exercise of a choleric master’s wrath ; for instances of unbecoming severity have been notorious in this school ; though, to the credit of Mr. Milner, the present master, it is just to say, that since he held the office, no circumstance of this nature has ever reached the author’s ears. It is true, that parents may complain of cruel usage to their children, to the trustees at their public meetings ; but, *the broad and sanguine stripe*, and *the whip-inflicted weal*, may be obliterated before an opportunity offers itself for their complaining ; in which case an application for redress, would be deemed frivolous and vexatious, which would add the spur of revenge to a cruel master’s conduct, and, very probably, be the means of withholding from the children the conditional gratuity at their quitting the school. For men in authority too often pay implicit credence to the declarations of others in authority, while the evidence of the less fortunate complainants is neglected and contemned. And, the doubts here cast upon the consequences of parents complaining of cruelty to their children, are completely justified from the repulsive and cold-blooded manner in which the article is written which authorizes such complaints. The effect too of great severity being exercised, must have a tendency to pervert the intention of the institution ; for when *fear* is the only thing which holds pupils in subordination, they look upon their preceptor with horror ; and, consequently, every word which falls from his lips makes an unfavorable impression on their minds. The man knows little of the human heart, who substitutes *severity* for *affability*, either in the government of an empire, a school, or a family.

In the year 1788, a division took place among the subscribers to this institution, which produced

### **THE UNITARIAN CHARITY SCHOOL,**

that has ever since been held in the High-pavement chapel, or the school rooms contiguous to it, erected for that purpose when the chapel was repaired. The establishment consists of thirty boys and twenty-four girls : about one half of each number are annually clothed, according to their seniority in the school. Mr. John Malbon is master.



### SACRAMENTAL SCHOOL.

It is customary for those persons who partake of the Lord's supper in the national establishment, to make a donation towards providing a charitable fund: in St. Mary's parish such fund is thus disposed of—£18 is annually paid to the sexton for teaching thirty poor children in the rudiments of reading, writing, and arithmetic—twelve guineas are disposed of in bread, to be given at Easter and Christmas to the poor; and the remainder is equally divided among the churchwardens and vicar, to enable them to be bountiful, in their official capacities, without touching their private purses. In 1807, they received about fourteen pounds each.

At the above date a number of children had clothes found to wear on Sabbath days, by some worthy females, providing they attended divine service regularly in this church; but these are now led, by their principal patroness, Miss Maddock, to St. James's church.

### SUNDAY SCHOOLS, &c.

If the adoption of any science, scheme, or institution, ever received the approbation of mankind more than any other, it is that of teaching the children of the indigent the rudiments of education on the Sabbath day; for the mass of the rising generation are thereby enabled to comprehend, apply, and partake of the elements of social life; to judge between a servile submission, and a savage insolence of conduct to their superiors; to form right notions of the laws of God, and of the rights of man; and, many of them are also enabled to apply to the arts and sciences, or in the higher spheres of life, those talents which heaven has bestowed upon them, and which might otherwise have been bound up by the frost of ignorance, or let loose in a dangerous display of uncultivated dissipation. Were it proper for the writer of local history, to branch out into the regions of panegyric, when the subject in hand is not biographical, a field the most extensive, strewn with flowerets the most choice, here presents itself to the luxuriance of imagination; but here, propriety directs the attention principally to facts.

The generosity of a sentimental public, in erecting a monument of national approbation to distinguished merit, has attributed the invention and original application of this never to be sufficiently praised institution, to *Mr. Raikes*, printer, of Gloucester; and, no doubt, the principal merit, as far as the unwearied application of talent and time goes, is his due; but as he dates his exertions no farther back than 1781, or 80, I have proof before me, that he was neither the original inventor nor applier of Sunday school teaching. John Moore, a framework-knitter, of Leicester, who, with a philanthropic mind, possessed a strong and active genius, undertook to teach as many children to read and write, gratis, on the Sabbath, as his premises would contain. He adopted this plan some time previous to the commencement of Mr. Raikes's labours, though the precise date is lost, and pursued it several years. The following, however, is a case in point, with exactness both of circumstance and date.

William Hallam, born at Kirton, in this county, in 1743, received an excellent English education at East Redford; and, though he served an apprenticeship to a framework-knitter in Nottingham,

he afterwards conducted seminaries in various parts of England, particularly at Buxton, Turnham Green, in Middlesex, Mansfield Woodhouse, &c. In 1777, he kept a school at Moneyash in the Peak of Derbyshire, and, shortly after the commencement of the following year, he began the teaching of poor children and servants, gratis, on the Sabbath, which is two years, at least, previous to the commencement of Mr. Raikes's efforts in the same laudable undertaking; and, as a proof that Mr. Hallam pursued his plan, and that it was publicly approved, the Rev. John Coxson, minister of the village, preached a charity sermon the first Sunday after Easter, the same year, for the purpose of purchasing books, &c. for the use of Mr. Hallam's Sunday school institution. In 1781, he became master of the free-school in Mansfield Woodhouse, at which time he opened a Sunday school, and advertised for scholars to be taught gratis.\* At this time too the flame extended to Nottingham, and a Sunday school was opened by the Methodists in Hockley chapel; and several other religious sects in the town soon followed the example. The New Methodists, after their separation from the old, built a very commodious school-house, two stories high, in Broad-lane-paddock, in 1804. The conductors of the Sunday school in Castle-gate chapel, as well as of that in Broad-lane-paddock, refuse to teach arithmetic on the Sabbath; the boys therefore attend two or three evenings in the week, for the purpose of receiving instruction in that science; and the girls, at the same time, are instructed in the art of sewing.

The contention between Joseph Lancaster, one of the society of *Friends*, and Dr. Bell a member of the church of England, for priority in the invention of simplifying the plan of education, produced a great national benefit, for the partizans of both have amplified their pretensions, by a most extensive practice; therefore there is scarcely a child in England that has not an opportunity of acquiring the rudiments of education, except its parents prevent it.

In the spring of 1810, a spirited subscription was entered into here for the purpose of establishing a school, on the principles and plan laid down by Mr. Lancaster; and on the 6th of August, the same year, the school was opened, in a building on the south side of Broad-marsh, originally erected for a cotton mill. And, the extraordinary acquirements made by many of the boys, under the tuition of Mr. Isaac Mac Leod, who has conducted the institution from its establishment, have gratified the most sanguine expectations of the subscribers.† A school, on the principles of Dr. Bell, was also instituted shortly after, by subscription among the members of the established church, and which is held in a building in High-cross-street, originally erected for a dissenting meeting-house. There are also about forty academies, and other schools of inferior note, in the town, the principal of which are, that conducted by the Rev. Dr. Nicholson, in Parliament-street, the spacious apartments for which were erected about the year 1777; that of Mr. Robert Goodacre's on Standard-hill, who erected this commodious building, with an observatory at the top in 1807; the Rev. James Tayler's, on Short-hill; Mr. Rodgers's, in St. James's-street; Mr. Biddulph's, in St. Mary's-gate; and Mr. Scott's, Parliament-street.

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\* At the time this article was made up for the printer, Hallam was a pauper in St. Mary's workhouse in this town.

† The Corporation have generously furnished ground closely adjoining the Lambley hospital on the Derby-road, for the erection of a new school-house, for the use of the Lancasterian institution; and which is expected shortly to be built. }

## ***BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.***

In the year 1776, a few humane persons among the Quakers, began a society at the house of Mr. George Bott, dentist, Bridlesmith-gate, for benevolent purposes, and, in consequence of its being continued where it was began, it has obtained the appellation of "*Bott's society*," the main design of which will be best explained, in the following quotation from their address. "The design of this institution is, to extend relief to such cases of distress as cannot be assisted, or sufficiently relieved, by the parochial laws of the country. To accomplish this purpose, monthly visitors are appointed, who inspect the cases of those who are recommended, or by any means, come under the notice of the society ; and relieve them by aid of medicine, by the distribution of apparel, by temporary loans or donations of money, coal, and provisions, as circumstances require. By these means the society assists strangers in distress,—persons labouring under temporary disease or casual misfortune,—aids the widow and orphan, and endeavours to encourage industry, cleanliness, and virtue."

“ The benevolent purposes of this society have been greatly promoted by the liberal exertions  
“ of several ladies (subscribers to this institution,) who visit such of their own sex as are properly  
“ recommended, either when lying-in, or under any circumstances of poverty and sickness, and  
“ contribute to their relief by the donation of linen, money, or such other aid as they deem  
“ necessary and expedient. Very essential advantages have also arisen from the free and liberal  
“ exertions of several medical gentlemen.”

The number of subscribers to this institution, in 1814, amounted to 244; and, at the close of that year their accounts stood thus:—

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
	£. s. d.		£. s. d.
To balance in hand January 1st, 1814	1 8 1	By 771 cases of want relieved	110 12 7
To subscriptions received	167 19 0	By blankets and baize	13 4 2
To donations	1 1 0	By linen	20 0 0
To interest	1 15 6	By postage, &c.	1 6 0
		By balance in hand	27 0 10
	<hr/> 172 3 7		<hr/> 172 3 7

In 1804, a benevolent society was formed in St. Mary's church ; and the following is a copy of their public address, in February, 1808.

*"TO THE INHABITANTS OF NOTTINGHAM AND ITS VICINITY,*

“The committee conducting the affairs of the society for the relief of the sick poor, beg leave to lay a statement of their accounts, and the cases relieved during the last year before the public. It is with regret they have to state, that circumstances have arisen which make it necessary now to restrict the administration of the benefits of this institution to the parish of St. Mary’s only.— It is scarcely necessary to observe that the subjects of distress in that populous parish are so numerous, and some of them in such extreme indigence and misery, that were the funds increased, the committee could much extend their usefulness, even in their present contracted sphere: they

“trust, therefore, that they shall continue to receive the support of a generous public to an institution so important as a measure of general utility, so beneficial in its effects, and so consonant to the principles of our holy religion.”

The following is the state of the society's accounts for the year 1807.

<i>Dr.</i>			<i>Cr.</i>		
	£.	s. d.		£.	s. d.
To balance in hand from 1806	60	6 3	By 666 cases relieved	147	4 6
To subscriptions and donations	140	14 0	By stationary	1	4 0
			By medicine	23	19 0
			By balance in hand	28	12 9
	201	0 3		201	0 3

In this year, that is in 1807, the society held at Mr. Bott's relieved 1013 cases, making the number of the distressed individuals thus relieved, many of them with large families, amount to 1679. The reader, by adding these to the vast number receiving parochial aid at the same time, or, at least by adding the sums of money thus expended, will be enabled to form a tolerably accurate opinion of the misery brought upon this fine town by a cruel and sanguinary war.

Had the writer been solely guided by the feelings of his own heart, on this subject, he would have given the name of every subscriber to these praise-worthy institutions; but, as many readers might have thought it an unnecessary extension to the number of the pages, the object was given up. For, what a contrast would those lists have exhibited, when compared with those men whose names are accompanied with the appellation of *hero*, and who are generally selected by historians to emblazon their works; men who have acquired an exalted reputation by murder, and every possible means of devastation—men, whose characters rise in the giddy fancy of mankind, in proportion to the number and magnitude of spoliations they have occasioned—men, whose purpose on earth seems to be to blast the fair blossoms of fructifying nature, and to sport with the mercies of heaven. Compare the actions of these men, with the conduct of those who visit the bed of sickness and distress, for the purpose of administering relief; and then ask, which are the most to be admired! which the most worthy of imitation!

### VACCINE INSTITUTION.

Among the numerous benefits resulting from the ingenuity of man, perhaps there is not one, which deserves more the commendation of society than the discovery of *vaccine inoculation*; as it prevents the infectiously spreading of, and, in time, might wholly eradicate one of the most loathsome diseases which ever afflicted the human frame. Dr. Marryat, when speaking of the *cause* of the small pox says, “It seems to be born with us, and to lie hid until some violent exagitation of the blood, from the introduction of a variolous particle, raises the seminal ferment, and occasions the appearance of those eruptions.”

In the year 1800, Mr. John Attenburrow, a surgeon of long and pre-eminent practice in this town, undertook to propagate vaccine inoculation amongst his fellow-towns-people. He first inoculated his own son; and the second he operated on, was an infant son of Mr. Charles Baxter,

who then kept the Cordwainer's Arms public-house, on Tollhouse-hill—in both cases, complete success crowned his fondest wishes. He repeated the operation twice upon each child, but the vaccine matter only took effect the first time. He then tried the infectious matter of the natural pock; but it took no effect. Mr. Attenburrow had still to contend against prejudices of women of all ages, and particularly the systematic prejudices of *old women in men's cloathing*, among whom were some of the faculty; but his credit and perseverance at length sacrificed the follies of his opposers at the altar of public good.\* Mrs. Baxter, possessing enlarged ideas, and a mind of superior polish, to what generally falls to the lot of *most* women in her sphere of life, pitied the clamours of those who called her an *unnatural mother*; and her conduct on this occasion had its proper effect upon the minds of her female neighbours. Mothers, shortly after, began to flock to Mr. Attenburrow's surgery with their children to be inoculated, who, instead of making a charge, thanked them for their attendance. Thus the principle and the practice of vaccine inoculation spread abroad hand in hand; and when a child became inflicted with the natural pock, its mother was branded as an enemy to her own child, under an impression that its affliction was the consequence of her own obstinacy or neglect. The other surgeons soon followed the praise-worthy example set them by Mr. Attenburrow; a discrimination was made between those parents who could, and those who could not afford to pay for the inoculation of their children; and this discrimination formed the boundaries to the exercise of this new species of charity. Upon an investigation of the business, by a number of wealthy and humane inhabitants of the town, this practice was thought to be too heavy a tax upon the benevolence of gentlemen of the faculty, in particular as the burden fell principally on a few; a public subscription was therefore began in 1805, for the purpose of paying a surgeon for inoculating the children of the poor; and to say that the *small pox* were not nearly driven from the town, would be to libel the good sense of the inhabitants. In 1813, this institution was brought to a close, for want of subscriptions to carry it on; but, at the same time a *medical establishment* was formed at St. Mary's workhouse, by the overseers of that parish; where the poor children of the parish are vaccinated gratis on the application of their parents.—In 1814, a *fever house* was established at this workhouse, which, at the succeeding Easter, was warmly commended for its usefulness in arresting the progress of contagious fevers, by H. Payne, M. D. and Mr. Henry Oldknow, surgeon, the then superintendents of the medical establishment.\*

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\* When the celebrated lady, Mary Wortley Montague was residing in Turkey with her husband, who was the British Ambassador at Constantinople, she was delivered of a daughter, about the year 1715, and, as inoculation with the natural pock was common in that country, she submitted to her child's undergoing the operation; and this was the first British born subject that was thus operated upon. This child, afterwards became wife to the Earl of Bute, political preceptor to George the Third. In 1721, several condemned criminals in Newgate submitted to the natural pock inoculation, on condition of having their liberty granted, if they survived the disease thus communicated. They not only survived but did well; and from that time the practice of inoculation became general in this country. And, it is well for mankind that, that practice is superceded by a better.

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## CHAPTER VI.

CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE SEVERAL MONASTERIES IN THIS TOWN PRIOR TO THE REFORMATION.

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On entering on this subject, I shall not, like Throsby, drop a tear of sympathy over the places where once stood these monuments of human folly and prejudice; for, it must be the wish of every friend to the human race, that seminaries of incest, sodomy, and every other species of abomination, such as monasteries were known to be, should be swept from the face of the earth, and that the ploughshare should convert the ground whereon they stand into nurseries for human food; or that the buildings themselves be turned into receptacles for indigence and old age, or into schools for the education of youth. I am not sufficiently an antiquary, to admire an institution, merely because it is old, independently of the influence it has, or may have had on the manners and happiness of mankind. With the man who admires for admiring's sake, such a notion may suit; but, with the opinions of him, who couples utility with veneration, it will always be at odds.

If the charms of Anne Bullen were the cause of monasteries being destroyed in England (and there is great reason to believe that they were) the nation owes more to her memory, than to that of any other female, who ever breathed the breath of life; for national utility and liberality of sentiment are as much at variance with the congregating of monastic hordes, as the practice of virtue is with the conduct of the vilest of the Billingsgate fraternity.

Monachism took its rise in the east, sometime in the third century; but I neither mean to tire myself or try the reader's patience by relating the history of its progress: suffice it to say, that religious persecution and the reveries of devotees gave it birth—superstition, craft, idleness, and unnatural lust procured its maturity—arrogance, presumption, ignorance, and a spirit of domination secured its power for a time, and made it the bridle of kings and the fetterer of nations—and, in this country, the charms of a worthy woman produced its overthrow and death. May it never revive, to scourge mankind with its bloody lash, and bind human reason in chains! In this town the following orders were established, viz. *The brothers of St. John of Jerusalem*; *the Minorites*, or *Grey Friars*; and *the Carmelites*, or *White Friars*.

*The brothers of St. John*, observed a perfect equality of property in their creed—"Thy money be with thee to perdition," was a proverbial expression among them, to shew that individual property was a thing which they despised—How strangely men differ in opinion about this thing called money; for we find many men in the present age, with professions equal in sanctity to those manifested by the brothers of St. John, who would risk *perdition* in the pursuit of gain—A man must have been a warrior from his youth, and have fought in support of the cross of Christ, to

ensure his election into this order ; many of the members whereof were famous in the crusades, or *crozades*, in what is called the holy land, during which, if we are to believe their legends, numerous miracles were wrought among them, such as Christ conversing with them on certain occasions, and the wonderful conversion of stones into loaves, and loaves into stones, to suit different purposes.

After the failure of the crusades, the members of this order were dispersed into different parts of Europe ; but their principal place of residence was Malta ; and, excepting that remnant, they have long been extinct, and those are now swallowed up in the vortex of European contentions. A party of them settled in Nottingham about the year 1215, and their habitation occupied the site where now stands the house of correction. In 1539, their order was dissolved ; and their estate here was afterwards given to the Corporation to enable them to keep the Trent bridge in repair. Their dress consisted of a linen surplice, which reached down to their feet, with an outward black garment in the shape of a cloak, and a hood of the same colour, covering the head, except the crown, which was shaven, and constrained to be uncovered. They were not permitted to have any more *sisters* than were necessary to serve the sick, and look after the affairs of the house, and, if any of the brothers were found to be lewd, they were expelled, except they were *mending* their conduct.

The *Minorites*, or *Grey Friars*, had a convent at the south-west corner of Broad-marsh ; and the land belonging it was walled round, and extended to the Leen. Their founder was a mendicant of the name of *Francis*, whom superstition and fraud dubbed with the appellation of *Saint*, and who, very probably, was such a character as Bampfylde Moore Carew, the celebrated hero among modern mendicants, while his followers, most likely, were not unlike the gangs of sham-crippled beggars of Bampfylde ; and hence the members of this very respectable order were *honored* with the name of *mendicants*. We are told, that *St. Francis* was an Italian merchant, extremely wicked ; and, that *after* he turned Saint, he robbed his father to enable him to repair the christian churches. This was a fit person to make a Saint of, that he might intercede for a remission of other people's sins, he being so exceedingly well acquainted with crimes and robberies himself.

Deering, when introducing this subject, says, “ Dr. Thoroton takes notice, that in the 5th of King Stephen, mention is made of the monks of Nottingham ; this was before any particular denomination of regulars were in this town, else they would have been called by the peculiar name of their profession ; but what puts it out of all doubt is, that the Franciscans, [the *Minorites*] of which the Minors are a branch, did not come into England till 1220, and the Carmelites not till 1240, whereas the 5th of King Stephen is so early as 1110.” And, in page 62, when speaking of Franciscans, he says, “ this order came first into England in 1210, about the 4th of King Henry the Third.” This requires no comment, as the reader cannot avoid seeing that our author contradicts himself ; except that it is necessary to state, that the 5th of Stephen was in 1140, and that the 4th of Henry the Third was in 1220 ; it therefore appears proper to give preference to the testimony of Thoroton.

These mendicants wore a long grey coat, and a hood of the same colour. They went barefooted; and were girded round the waist with a cord.

The *Carmelites* settled in England in the early part of the twelfth century; and, in 1290, they were very numerous, at which time they obtained permission from Pope Honorius the 4th, to exchange their party-coloured mantle, which they pretended to wear in imitation of the mantle of the prophet Elias, for a white cloak; and hence they obtained the name of *White Friars*. They took their original name of *Carmelites* from a set of hermits that dwelt on Mount Carmel in Palestine. Their convent in this town stood where now stands the house of Mr. Bakewell, woolstapler, between St. James's-street and Friar-lane.

### ST. LEONARD'S HOSPITAL.

Concerning this institution, Thoroton has the following words:—"The Lepers of the hospital of St. Leonard at Nottingham, 10. H. 3. (1226) had reasonable estover of dead wood to be gathered in the forest of Nottingham."

This institution cannot be considered as having been a receptacle for a distinct religious order, but merely as an appendage to the rest; or, as the name imports, *a house for the reception of lepers*.

Hospitals for the reception of those persons troubled with the dreadful disease of leprosy were common among the Hebrews; as may be seen by referring to the 2d of Kings, the vii. chap. v. 8. and Luke the xvii. chap. v. 12. This distemper was introduced into Europe by the Moors and Arabs, about the beginning of the eleventh century; and, with such extreme violence did it rage, that Matthew Paris, the historian, who died in 1259, informs us, that in his time there were not less than nine thousand hospitals for lepers in Europe. Leprosy is one of the most dreadful diseases which ever afflicted mankind, so much so, that the Hebrews looked upon it as a visitation from heaven for some heinous offence, and therefore never attempted its cure, except by washing and religious expiation. And, in latter times, those afflicted with this disease were always reputed *unclean*, and were therefore necessitated to live apart from those that were not thus afflicted; in consequence thereof they formed themselves into societies for mutual protection and benefit: they erected convents for habitations, and dedicated them to some particular saint, according to the superstition of the day. Here monks, friars, priests, and lay persons might dwell together, without being subject to the rules of any particular order, except such as related to the ameliorating their distempered condition.

Deering, after much research, for the site whereon stood the hospital of St. Leonard in this town, concluded it to be at the south-west corner of Narrow-marsh, where a church-like foundation, which has been removed in part, and partly re-occupied with new buildings within the last fifteen years, in his opinion justified such a conclusion. Had our author seen Spede's map, his research might have been spared; for there the lepers' hospital is distinctly seen, in the place where he conceived it to have been. It appears by an instrument of the 31st of Edward the Third, that an endowment of half an acre of land in the king's domains within the court of Nottingham, in the hermitage, which was called *Owswell*, was granted to St. Leonard's hospital.



## FRATERNITY OF ST. SEPULCHRE, &c.

Thoroton informs us, that, in the reign of Henry the Third, there was a party in this town, called the *Fraternity of St. Sepulchre*, (*Fratres S. Sepulchri*) and a college of secular priests in the castle, as likewise a cell for four monks in the chapel of St. Mary in the rock under the castle. In a small book, printed in 1680, entitled *Valor Beneficiorum*, this chapel is said to have been a rectory, and of £5 value in the kings books.

It has often excited considerable surprise, that Henry the Eighth, considering with what rancour he destroyed the monasteries, did not give up the title of *Defender of the Faith* in a huff, as it was given to him by Pope Leo the Tenth, for defending the absurdities of the church of Rome against the doctrines of Martin Luther. For, this was the very Pope that used to make his boast *how much money the mother church had obtained by the fable of the birth of Christ*; therefore, according to the opinion of this *pious* Pope, Henry's merit consisted in supporting a superstructure, which had a fable for its foundation! Alas, Henry! where was thy honor, when thou receivedst a title from a professed hypocrite?

Some baubles will an *upgrown child* beguile,  
At which a boy of five years old would smile!

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\* The author, from mere curiosity, presents the following charter from Dugdale's *Monasticon* :—

Charter of King Henry the Fourth, granted to the priory of Benedictine Nuns, at Derby.

Henry, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to all to whom these letters may come, health: Know ye that, as we have been informed, our progenitor, Lord Henry the Third, King of England, did, by his letters patent, for the augmentation of his revenue, and the better maintenance of our beloved in Christ the prioress and the convent of nuns of the priory of St. Mary de Pratis, of Derby, give and concede to the said prioress and convent, for praying for the soul of John the Father of the aforesaid King Henry, one hundred shillings, as a free, pure, and perpetual charity, to be received annually by themselves and their successors, from the fee-farm of the town of Nottingham, by the hands of the bailiffs for the time being; which letters have been burnt by the sudden misfortune of fire. We, therefore, of our special grace, at the prayer of the aforesaid prioress and convent, and on consideration of what has been before stated, do give and concede for ourselves and our heirs as far as in us lies, to the aforesaid prioress and convent, the sum of one hundred shillings, to be paid annually, for ever, to themselves and their successors, out of the fee-farm of our town of Nottingham, by the hands of the bailiffs of the said town, for the time being, at two equal payments, on St. Michael's day, and Easter. In testimony of which, we have caused these our letters patent to be made; myself being witness, at Westminster, this — day of July, in the first year of our reign.

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## CHAPTER VII.

CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE HOSPITALS, ALMS-HOUSES, AND OTHER CHARITIES.

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### *PLUMPTRE'S HOSPITAL.*

PRIOR to the reformation, this institution, with much propriety, might have been classed under the head, *chapels* ; but since the endowment has been better applied, than in maintaing two lazy priests to teach a few old women how to count their beads and mumble their pater-nosters, it comes properly under the present head. .

Deering, on the part of his patron, John Plumptre, Esq. or, at least in his name, makes an attack upon Thoroton, for having committed a mere sexual error in his account of this hospital ; while he has laboured in his own long and garbled account, evidently to conceal certain names, as connected with circumstances of embezzling the proceeds of this charity. I shall therefore prefer the relation given by Thoroton, which is as follows :—

“ In the time of King Richard the Second here flourished Henry de Plumptre, and two Johns de Plumptre, brothers, as their several wills do intimate ; Henry’s testament bears date 1408, which year he died, in which he gave a legacy to his sister Elisota, and another to John de Croweshawe his younger brother, besides very many other, as one to Thomas his brother’s son, and another to Elizabeth his own wife’s daughter ; John his son and heir, and Margaret then wife of the said Henry, were his executors, and Thomas de Plumptre, chaplain, a witness.

“ John de Plumptre’s testament was dated 1415, not long before his death, he also gave a legacy to his sister Elisota, and another to his brother John : his executors were John de Plumptre, his cousin, and Thomas de Plumptre, chaplain, his cousin also ; John Plumptre, junior, was witness. This John the testator had a licence, 16 R. 2. to found a certain hospital or house of God, of (or for) two chaplains, whereof one should be master or warden of the said hospital, or house of God, and of (or for) thirteen widows broken with old age, and depressed with poverty, in a certain messuage of the said John, with the appurtenances in *Nottingham*, and to give the said messuage, and ten other messuages, and two tofts, with the appurtenances in the said town, to the said master or warden, and his successors, viz. the one messuage for the habitation of the said chaplains and widows, and the rest, for their sustentation, to pray for the wholesome estate of the said John, and Emme his wife whilst they should live, and for their souls afterwards. In the year 1400, July 12, seeing that God had vouchsafed him to build a certain hospital at the bridge end of *Nottingham* in honor of God, and the annunciation of his mother the blessed Virgin, for the sustenance of thirteen poor women, &c. he proposed to ordain a chantry, and willed that it should be at the altar of the annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary in the chapel built beneath

“ the said hospital, and should be of two chaplains perpetually to pray for the state of the king, of  
 “ him the said John de Plumptre, and Emme his wife, and of the whole community of *Nottingham*,  
 “ &c. who with the prior of *Lenton*, after the death of the said John the founder, were to present  
 “ to it, and each of the said two chaplains were for their stipends to have 100s. yearly paid in  
 “ money out of the said ten tenements, and two tofts in *Nottingham*. After the dissolution of  
 “ monasteries, in 2 E. 6. Sir Gervase Clifton, Sir John Hersey, Sir Anthony Nevile, Knights,  
 “ and William Bolles, Esquire, commissioners for the survey of colleges, chapels, &c. certified  
 “ that no poor were then to be found in this hospital, and that the lands were then wholly employed  
 “ to the benefit of one Sir Piers Bursdale, priest, master thereof. Afterwards both the hospital  
 “ and chapel became ruinous and demolished, and the very materials embezzled, till after diverse  
 “ patents of the said mastership, Nicholas Plumptre, of *Nottingham*, 24 Eliz. obtained one, and  
 “ with the fines he received, made some reparations, and brought in some poor, but after his  
 “ decease during the masterships of Richard Parkins of Boney, and Sir George his son, who it  
 “ seems were trusted successively, for Henry Plumptre, son and heir of the Nicholas, in his  
 “ non-age, having then married Anne, the daughter of the said Richard, and sister of the said Sir  
 “ George Parkins, both the hospital and tenements belonging to it grew into great decay, until after  
 “ Sir George's death, that Nicholas Plumptre, son and heir of Henry, last named, became master  
 “ by a patent 5 Car. 1 and made some repairs and amendments, which yet were not judged  
 “ sufficient by his brother and heir Huntingdon Plumptre, doctor of physick, who all succeeded  
 “ him in the mastership, which he obtained 1645, (being then eminent in his profession, and a  
 “ person of great note, for wit and learning, as formerly he had been for poetry when he printed  
 “ his book of Epigrams and *Batrachomyomachia*) for in the year 1650, he pulled the hospital  
 “ down, and rebuilt it as now appears, and advanced the rents, so that the monthly allowance to  
 “ the poor is double to what it was anciently. His son and heir Henry Plumptre, Esquire, is now  
 “ master or guardian, being so made by his present majesty, 24 Car. 2. 1672.”\*

For a considerable time prior to 1645, the allowance to each poor widow was one penny per day, at which date it was advanced to two shillings and tenpence a month, with an additional sixpence on New-year's-day. In 1650, the allowance was advanced to five shillings a month; at a subsequent period it was fifteen shillings, accompanied with a ton of coal and a new gown to each at Christmas; and now it is £1 2s. 7d. per month, with the gowns and coal continued.

The behaviour of two of the venerable occupiers of this hospital, when I went to examine it, was calculated to make an impression, not easily to be defaced—they were upwards of eighty years of age; and the reader, it is hoped, will pardon me for dropping a few words on the subject. On being asked some questions respecting their situation, their eyes began to flow with tears, and they seemed lost in an extacy of joy when speaking of the pious founder; but particularly when referring to the conduct of Francis Evans, Esq. steward to the estate, and disposer of the proceeds.

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\* This worthy character resided in the house now occupied by Mr. George Johnson, which stands at the right hand corner of the entrance into Willoughby-row from Fisher-gate; and it is very probable that he built it, as his family arms were engraven on stone and placed in the front, where they still remain.

Being ignorant of the motives which induced the inquiry, they said, “surely you dont intend to do us any hurt ; for, Mr. Evans is so good a gentleman, that he never lets us ask twice for any thing !” When I had explained to them, the object of my inquiries, they exclaimed, “That is all we want—God bless you—and be sure to give Mr. Evans a good character.” We wept together ; and I left them, with a mind fully determined to comply with their desires.

The founder of this hospital was a merchant of the staple of Calais ; and, by what remains of the ancient fabric, it appears to have consisted of massive stone walls, in which are still to be seen several niches, which the old ladies, before alluded to, justly remarked, had been made for the admission of images connected with the Roman Catholic religion. Just opposite to the common entrance out of Fisher-gate is the door place which led into the chapel—it is bricked up, and is the only remaining appearance of that ancient place of worship, which, Deering says, “was 58 feet long and 32 feet in front.” Our author likewise says, that the west front of the hospital in his day, was 74 feet ; and that the depth of it was 63 feet. In what manner he took his admeasurement I cannot tell ; for though the building is in the same state as it was then, except as time and repairs may have altered it, according to the admeasurement which I took of it, the west front is about 27 feet, and the depth of it in Fisher-gate, about 96 feet.

Over the western entrance used to be the following Latin inscription, which was preserved by Thoroton :—

*Xenodochium hoc cum sacello adjuncto in honorem Annunciationis B. Virg. Mariæ pro 13. pauperiorum Viduarum & 2 Sacerdotum alimonia Johannes de Plumptre, fundavit A. D. 1390. Quod (temporis diuturnitate jam pene confectum) instauravit denuo, & hac qualicunq. structurâ se sibi restituit Huntingdonus Plumptre ex familia fundatoris, Armiger, & ejusdem Hospitalii Magister, A. D. 1650.*

In a note on this inscription Deering makes the following remark, “This inscription might be somewhat worn in Thoroton’s time, so that he might easily mistake the round part of the 2 for a cypher. The licence being obtained in 1392.” That Thoroton mistook the figure for a cypher, there seems little doubt ; and that Deering is also wrong in his correction is also certain, as the licence was obtained the 16th of Richard the Second, which was in 1393. This error is preserved too upon the stone which contains the subsequent inscription.\*

The stone containing the above inscription being very much defaced, it was taken away, probably when the alterations were made in 1753, and one containing the following was placed in its stead.

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\* Dugdale, in his *Monasticon*, says the licence for the founding of this hospital was obtained in 1400.

*“ Plumptre Hospital, originally founded and endowed for the support of a master and a priest, and 13 poor widows, by John de Plumptre, in 1392. When almost decayed it was in part renewed by a descendent of the founder, Huntingdon Plumptre, Esq. 1650.*

*“ Besides other great improvements, four new tenements were added by his grandson, John Plumptre, Esq. deceased, in 1751. His son, John Plumptre, Esq. repaired the old buildings and added two new tenements, thus completing the charitable design of the benevolent founders, A. D. 1753.”*

### **HANDLEY'S ALMS-HOUSES.**

Handley's hospital, which consists of twelve habitations, stands in Stoney-street, the building commencing near the top of Barker-gate, and extending northwards in the former street: upon a stone in the centre of the front is the following inscription, now almost obliterated, accompanied with the arms of the founder.

*Henry Handley, Esq. whose body is interred in the Church of Bramcote in the County of Nottingham, caused this Alms-House to be erected for 12 poor People, and did give one hundred Pounds yearly, forth of his ancient Inheritance, Lands at and near Bramcote aforesaid, for pious and charitable Uses, to continue for ever. Namely XLl. for the Maintenance of the said 12 poor people; XXl. for a Weekly Lecture in this Town; XXl. for a Preaching and residing Minister at Bramcote; Vl. for the Poor of Bramcote; Vl. for the Poor at Wilford; XXs. to the Poor of Beeston; XXs. to the Poor of Chilwell; XXs. to the Poor of Attenborow and Toton; XXs. to the Poor of Stapleford; XXs. to the Poor of Trowell; XXs. to the Poor of Woollaton; and IVl. to the Poor Prisoners in the Gaols for the County of Nottingham yearly for ever, and one third Bell to the aforesaid Church of Bramcote.— This pious, most charitable, and at this Time most seasonable Donation, as it deservedly perpetuates his Memory to be honoured by all Posterity, so it gives a most worthy example for Imitation. He died on the 10th Day of June 1650.*

To each of these habitations is attached a convenient plot of garden ground, the whole of which extends from the back of the hospital to the back of Rice-place, in Barker-gate. But, as each dwelling consists of one room only; as the whole fabric is in a wretched state of delapidation, without any prospect of adequate reparation; and, as the site is a most eligible one for genteel buildings, it appears highly desirable that the trustees should sell the estate, and erect twelve other small houses, more convenient for the occupiers, for the purpose of perpetuating the founder's charitable intention. Land might be obtained in the skirts of the town for one-fourth of the money which the estate in question would sell for; or, from what the writer hereof knows of the disposition of the Corporation of this town, on subjects like this, he has no doubt but that body would grant a convenient piece of waste ground, on a mere nominal rent, for the object in question. The remainder of the money, produced by the sale of the present estate, might be placed out at interest, and thereby some addition would be made to the allowance of the poor occupiers, which is now only sixteen shillings and eightpence per quarter; that being paid to them by Mr. Wheatcroft of this town as steward to John Longden, Esq. of Bramcote, who holds the estates of the founder, from which the various bequests arise. That gentleman too has the presentation of the four centre habitations; the Mayor of Nottingham, for the time being, disposes of the four towards the north; and Earl Manvers of the four towards the south.

Without some steps are speedily taken to repair, or rebuild these humble tenements they will shortly be in an uninhabitable state, which would certainly be contrary to the founder's will; not only as he left forty pounds a year in perpetuity to be paid to the occupiers thereof, but, as his will positively directs, that they shall be kept in a state of repair by the town of Nottingham. This, it is reasonable to infer, must imply that the mayor of this town should not only be a trustee for the management of these alms-houses, but that he should likewise have the control of the bequest; for, otherwise, to carry the will into effect would be to give a power to the exercise of that will, contrary to both law and equity: it would be saying, that Henry Handley, Esq. of Bramcote, had the power of taxing the inhabitants of Nottingham, which, beyond dispute, was not the case.—Though the laws of England authorize a testator to appoint executors to his will, they do not enable him to tax those executors with the expense of carrying such will into effect; nor, if such executors are magistrates, does the laws authorize them to tax those persons within their jurisdiction, for any purpose of that kind. Therefore, if the passage in this will, mean any thing, which directs these alms-houses to be kept in repair by the town of Nottingham, it seems reasonable to suppose, that the testator intended that the mayor, for the time being (he being supposed to be the best judge, from his resident situation) should have the power of taxing the estates whence the bequest emanates, or else the bequest itself, to enable him to keep the building in repair.

John Longden, Esq. generally causes the houses in his presentation to be occupied by the poor of Bramcote, in order to ease that parish in its rates: and Earl Manvers might do the same, respecting any of the villages within his estates; therefore for Nottingham to keep the whole of these habitations in repair, according to the bare letter of the will, it would be making the inhabitants thereof contribute towards the rates of those parishes, whose poor were placed in these alms-houses; and God knows they have enough to do in paying their own. If John Longden, Esq. and Earl

Manvers would give up their repective shares in the presentation, it would then be both reasonable and just for the mayor of this town to repair the dwellings in question, by means of a town rate ; and, by reserving the presentation wholly to himself, he might apportion the benefit of the bequest among the three parishes, so as to compensate them for their expenses.

If these dwellings are suffered to remain in an uninhabitable state during a succession of years, (three I believe,) the consequence will be, that John Longden, Esq. will become the exclusive proprietor of the stipend paid to the occupiers, as his predecessor did, about the year 1768, of the £20 annually paid, as directed by the will of the said Henry Handley, to a minister in this town for reading a lecture once a week, which was lost in the following manner :—

The Rev. Mr. Davenport, being a curate at St. Mary's, and having but a small income, the legacy was given to him, from a principle of compassion, to enable him the better to provide for a very numerous family. In process of time Mr. Davenport obtained the benefice of Ratcliff-on-Trent, from which place he used to come every Wednesday morning to read the lecture in St. Mary's church. For a time he used to accompany the lecture with the morning prayers, as an accommodation to the vicar. At length he declined reading prayers ; in consequence of which the vicar refused to let him pass through the vicarage seat, which it was necessary for him to do in order to mount the pulpit. Notwithstanding this obstruction, Mr. Davenport continued to come as usual, and, when he found the vicarage seat door closed against him, he would give it a shake, and, at the same time, make a significant nod to some of the congregation, by way of saying, " take notice that I am here." After pursuing this course some time, Mr. Davenport neglected to attend—the legacy remained undemanded during three years ; and from that time it has been lost, and, that part of the donor's will perverted. And this will be the case with the charitable purposes of the will altogether, if similar opportunities occur. I would here recommend to the gentleman, who holds the estates of the testator, Handley, to examine the conduct of Mr. Evans, who has the direction of the charitable donations of the Plumptre's, and then remind him of the words of our Lord in the parable of the good Samaritan—" go thou and do likewise."

About the year 1748, the Corporation repaired these habitations at the cost of their own chamber purse ; but, the other presentors not following their example, they consider themselves under no obligation to do the like again.

### ***BARNABY WARTNABY'S ALMS-HOUSES.***

Barnaby Wartnaby, an industrious blacksmith of this town, who having acquired considerable property, determined upon perpetuating his memory by an act of charity ; accordingly some years before his death, he erected a building, at the end, and on the north side of Pilcher-gate, consisting of three lower, and three upper rooms—the lower ones he consigned for the residence of three poor women, and the upper ones to the same number of poor old men for ever ; any one of whom to be subject to removal by the trustees, for leading disorderly lives ; the founder being a strict nonconformist, in the furious reign of Charles the Second. By his will, bearing date the 30th of October, 1672, he directed that each of his bead-folk should receive five shillings at his death ; and further, that ninety pounds should be disposed of thus ; that is, each man to have a new coat, and

each woman a new gown; and that the surplus to remain in the hands of the trustees, to add to the rental of two houses adjoining the alms-houses, and one in Woolpack-lane, long in the occupation of Mr. Fox, framesmith, and now in that of William Rushton, of the same business, for the purpose of making provision, as far as such property would go, for the poor people in his alms-houses.

Deering gives the mayor of the town a principal authority in the management of this charity; whereas he neither has, nor ever had, any more to do with it, according to the information I have received from the oldest of the present trustees, than had the author of the *Arabian Nights Entertainment*, nor does the testator's will mention the mayor at all. Deering further says, that the rents arising from the above-named tenements "were to be disposed of for cloathing, coal, and repairs." Here he is right; and the practice seems to have been, ever since the testator's death, to give each man a coat, and each woman a gown every two years, with two tons of coal to each annually. The trustee above alluded to, informed me, that, about the year 1785, a weekly allowance of sixpence was began to be given to each of the old people in these alms-houses, in addition to their cloathing and coal, which was shortly afterwards encreased to a shilling; and, though the *regular* allowance thus continues, two, three, or four pounds are sometimes sent to be divided among the old people. The trustees are, Thomas Hall, Esq. F. Hardwick, Esq. Mr. William Jamson, attorney-at-law, Mr. Thomas Evison, Mr. John Stirland, and Mr. Thomas Dufty, who have the sole presentation to, and management of the charity.

In 1806, these alms-houses underwent a general repair, as well as the two adjoining houses; till which time a stone in the west end contained the following inscription:—

As God above, out of his Love,  
Has given to me store,  
So I out of Charity,  
Give this House to the Poor.  
Let's pray for one another,  
So long as we do live,  
That we may to God's Glory go,  
To him that this did give.  
Barnaby Wartnaby, 1665.

The following brief inscription now occupies the place of the above.

THIS HOUSE AND OTHERS WERE GIVEN TO THE POOR,  
BY BARNABY WARTNABY,  
1665.

### ***PILCHER-GATE ALMS-HOUSES.***

A little above Wartnaby's alms-houses, on the same side of the street, stand four miserable, unendowed hovels, in the presentation of the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of St. Mary's parish, of the origin of which no trace can be found. There is strong reason to believe, however, that they were once endowed, and that the property has been applied to other purposes. There is a house on the same side of the street, which was leased to one Dunn, by the parish officers, in 1731, for the term of ninety-nine years, and on conditions highly advantageous to the lessee, which,



very probably, might once belong to these humble habitations. There is another house in this street, the possessor of which, I believe, holds it more by the title of *occupancy* than that of *right*; and which, if properly sought into, might be found to have belonged to these premises.

In the summer of 1807, at a full vestry meeting in St. Mary's church, it was unanimously resolved, to carry a previous resolution into effect, which gave full powers to the churchwardens and overseers to sell these premises, and an adjoining yard; and with the proceeds of such sale, to erect other small dwellings upon some spare ground belonging to Woolley's bead-houses in Beck-lane, which was at their disposal. It was likewise resolved, if any surplus remained, after a clear adjustment of accounts, that it should be applied in the best possible manner for the benefit of those who might hereafter occupy the intended habitations. These salutary resolutions, however, have not been carried into effect; and the ground, on which the houses were intended to be built, has been disposed of, as will be seen hereafter.

A butcher's stall, which stood near the Weekday-cross, has been disposed of by the parish officers, since the above resolutions were passed, for £35, the interest whereof has been adjudged to the occupiers of these miserable dwellings.

### WARSER-GATE HOSPITALS.

These habitations stand on the south side of the street, and nearly facing the end of Queen-street. The origin of this foundation, like the one we have just been speaking of, is entirely lost; though there exists an opinion, though upon what authority I know not, that William Scott, who was mayor of this town in 1578, was the founder, and that he left property, the annual rent of which was to be distributed among his bead-folk. Forty years ago the building consisted of a few miserable huts; but, within that time the whole has been rebuilt, at the expense of St. Mary's parish, the minister, churchwardens, and overseers thereof having, by will, or otherwise, obtained the presentation: it is divided into six dwellings, three upper and three lower, of one room each; those who occupy the upper receive ten shillings a year, and those in the lower one guinea each. It has been customary too, within the last ten years, for each occupier to receive half a ton of coal at Christmas; but this depends entirely on the will of the churchwardens.

The property from which these annual stipends emanate, is a plot of ground in the fields, which was long held by the late Mr. Rowbothom, of the Flying Horse Inn. There likewise goes a tradition, that a portion of land near Poplar-place once belonged to this charity, and that an annual acknowledgment was paid for it some years ago; but all claim upon the land and the acknowledgment too is now for ever lost. This, however ought not to prevent the parish officers from inquiring into the value of that portion of land in the fields which belongs to this charity; for small indeed must be that plot of ground within the liberties of Nottingham which is not worth more than £4 13s. a year, particularly when the advance in value is taken into consideration.\*

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\* Since the above was prepared for the press, the writer hereof has ascertained that this land consists of the following lots, viz. three roods and thirty-seven perches, upon Golds-wong-hill, improperly called Gooseham-hill, marked No. 218 in the Clayfield survey; and two leys in these fields, near the Mansfield-road, containing three roods and five perches, marked No. 184. There is a parcel of land in these fields belonging to the sexton, for the time being, of St. Mary's parish, but the author knows not the origin of the bequest: it consists of two roods and three perches, being part of a plot called Stonewatering-leys, and is marked 311 in the survey.

As the parish officers are not trustees, as directed by the existing will of a testator, for this or the Pilcher-gate charity, but merely agents for the parish, such charities are *bona fide* parish property; and therefore any burgess partaking of their benefits is disfranchised from voting for a member of parliament.

### WOOLLEY'S BEAD-HOUSES.

Concerning this charity, Deering speaks in the following words, viz. "Thomas Woolley, late of Nottingham, gent. by his last will, bearing date the 14th of April, 1647, gave to the parish of St. Mary, two cottages and appurtenances, situated in a place called Beck-lane, the one to be divided into two tenements, so that both might hold three poor persons, to be placed therein at the discretion of the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the poor for the time being. He also left a rent charge of 40s. per annum, to provide two gowns yearly of 20s. value each, for the bead-folk, and if there be no need, to employ the money in the repairs of the bead-houses. These 40s. are at this time paid by Mr. Clifford Harrison, 13s. 4d. and by Mr. Featherstone, 6s. 8d. half yearly. This is an airy wholesome place, and the parish has built two apartments over the old ones for two poor people more."

The correct state of the case seems to be, that the two cottages formed one connective building of two rooms, both on the ground floor; that one was double the size of the other; and that a partition wall, run across the larger one, was merely necessary to complete the testator's design, in respect to the number of dwellings; that the parish, afterwards, built *three* apartments over the old ones; and that the appurtenances alluded to consisted of a piece of land in front of the building, which was divided into small plots of garden ground for the conveniency of the occupiers of the charity, about one hundred yards of which were leased, in 1812, to the late Mr. J. W. Caunt, maltster, for the term of fifty years, at two guineas annual rent; which rent is equally divided among the six occupiers.\* The old people complain, that Mr. Caunt inclosed more land than he had agreed for with the parish officers; this however, the writer leaves to their successors to inquire into, not doubting but they will render justice to the parties, having on his part communicated to them the old people's complaints. It is proper to state here, that this is the land alluded in the account of the Pilcher-gate alms-houses, as being directed to be built upon, by a resolution of the vestry, which resolution, in the humble opinion of the writer hereof, has been improperly contravened.

Mr. Featherstone, a descendent of the gentleman of that name, mentioned by Deering, pays thirteen shillings and fourpence yearly to one of the occupiers of the lower rooms; and the executors of the late Mr. Caunt pay thirteen shillings and fourpence to each of the other two; those persons who occupy the upper rooms receiving no regular stipend, except their share of the two guineas, as named above. The churchwardens, in the exercise of their discretionary disposal of certain portions of the sacrament money, give to these poor people a few hundreds of coal in

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\* On the 2d of May, 1815, a committee of gentlemen was appointed in St. Mary's vestry to examine into the validity of this and other leases; and power was given to take legal advice on the subject, at the expense of the parish.

the winter season, and sometimes a little money ; and it is somewhat entertaining to hear them descant on the virtues of those gentlemen, who are the most liberal on these occasions. A slate in front of the building contains the following inscription :—

THESE BEAD-HOUSES  
WERE BUILT BY  
THOMAS WOOLLEY, GENT.  
ANNO DOMINI, 1647,  
AND REPAIRED BY  
JAMES DALE, }  
ROBERT BOOTH, } CHURCHWARDENS.  
ANNO DOMINI, 1809.

### *WILLOUGHBY'S HOSPITAL.*

Of this institution, Deering speaks thus :—“ Thomas Willoughby, by his last will, dated the 4th of September, 1524, and proved the 11th of May, 1525, left to his wife and children in trust, and after the death of his executors, to the churchwardens of St. Mary's for ever, a close in Fisher-gate and two gardens in Moot-hall-gate, the rents and profits thereof to be employed in the reparation of his alms-houses on Malin-hill, and, if repairs be not wanting, to be bestowed on fuel for the said bead-folk ; out of this each churchwarden to have sixpence for his trouble.” Our author further says,—“ The whole rents belonging to Willoughby's bead-houses for five poor widows, are at present £9 10s. Besides this, William Willoughby, grandson of the founder, left to the bead-folk on Malin-hill, an annuity of ten shillings a year to be laid out in wood or coal.”

The hospital, and some tenements thereunto belonging, called Willoughby-row, now stand in the close above alluded to ; but, from what property the ten shillings a year emanate, I have not been able to learn : the money is paid to one of the old people (who divides it among the rest) at the bank of Moore, Maltby and Co. on an order being produced from the senior churchwarden.

Deering states the building originally to have consisted of *five* dwellings : and, as there were six, a considerable time previous to the removal of the whole, that will account for the following circumstance, as it has been related to me by elderly persons, viz. that about 1758, (for I have not been very particular about the year, conceiving it of little consequence) the grandfather of the late Mr. Archer, sinkermaker, who is stated to have dwelt in Narrow-marsh at that time, being churchwarden, sold a part of the estate in Friar-lane which belongs to this foundation, and with the proceeds thereof, built an additional habitation.

In the close, where now stands the hospital, stood formerly eight small houses ; and it appears from Deering that one Richard Hooton, a plasterer, obtained a lease of the whole premises, for fifty years, in 1705, at the annual rent of five pounds ; that he sold a part of the said leasehold, to one George Merring, who built three other tenements upon it ; and that Hooton sold the remainder of his interest in the said lease to one Joseph Hart, a tallow-chandler, who erected another tenement ; and who, in the year 1720, obtained a renewal of his part of the lease for sixty years longer. Deering describes this as a cunning and dishonorable fellow, for he states him to have

obtained a lease of the whole, at the expiration of the original lease, for the time above specified, to the exclusion of Merring and his heirs, though the latter had built three houses on his part of the ground. Query, *did not the churchwardens receive a fee?* At the expiration of this lease, in 1780, the present hospital was built; though Throsby, whose publication did not appear till 1791, states the old building still to be standing on Malin-hill, notwithstanding it was taken down the same year that the new one was erected.

Mr. Morris, whose name has already been mentioned, when speaking of St. Mary's church, having a great desire to add the site on which the old building stood to his garden at the south front of his house on Short-hill, agreed with the churchwardens for the same, on a lease of two hundred years, on condition of erecting twelve comfortable dwellings upon the estate near Pennyfoot-stile, and paying five shillings a year ground rent; six of which dwellings to be on the ground floor, and six one story above them. The building was accordingly erected, contiguous to three tenements on the east and three on the west, which belong to the foundation.

In the front of these hospitals is a stone bearing this inscription:—

WILLOUGHBY'S HOSPITAL REMOVED FROM MALIN-HILL.

JOHN PEPPER AND }  
WILLIAM LOWE, } CHURCHWARDENS,

1780.

The following was the state of this charity in 1807, at which time the principal materials for this chapter were collected:—

	£.	s.	d.
Each of the six poor persons who occupied the lower apartments, received half yearly } from the churchwardens - - - - - }	2	2	0
Those occupying the upper apartments received - - - - -	1	8	0
Which made an annual total of - - - - -	42	0	0

The rent of the estate at that time was as follows:—

IN FRIAR-LANE.

Stabling belonging to the Lion Hotel, (Lord Carrington lessee) - - - - -	10	0	0
Mr. Sheldon's premises, joiner - - - - -	10	0	0

IN CARTER-GATE.

The Half Moon public-house, &c. held on lease by Mr. S. Beardsley - - - - -	10	0	0
Three tenements at the east end, and three at the west end of the hospital - - - - -	25	5	0
	55	5	0

In 1807, the property in Carter-gate produced to the lessee the following rents:—

The Half Moon public-house - - - - -	34	0	0
A range of stabling and cow houses - - - - -	10	0	0
A framesmith's Shop - - - - -	6	0	0
	50	0	0

There is also a building comprehended in this lease, which joins the house of Mr. Halford, cooper, and which was occupied by him as a parlour.\* This parlour has since been converted into a dwelling-house, and lets for five pounds a year. The framesmith's shop has since been let

\* Mr. Halford's house belongs to Plumpton's charity, and is held by Mr. Beardsley on lease, who lets it to Mr. Halford.

to a bricklayer of the the name of Lane, at four guineas rent; and it is now occupied by a person of the name of Blount, at five pounds rent, as the author is informed.

In 1810, the lease of the Lion Hotel stables in Friar-lane expired, and a new one was granted to Mr. Charles Porter, for the term of twenty-one years, at the annual rent of sixty-seven pounds; and on condition of his laying five hundred pounds out on the premises. This will give the reader an idea of the manner in which the old lease was granted. The same year the three dwellings at the west end of the hospital were converted into six additional apartments for old people; and shortly after another was added, which makes the whole numbers of dwellings upon this foundation *nineteen*, and every occupier now receives from the churchwardens five pounds four shillings a year, at half yearly payments, which makes the allowance to this hospital amount annually to £95 16s. The income to meet which is,

	£.	s.	d.
From Mr. Beardsley's lease - - - - -	10	0	0
From Mr Sheldon's lease - - - - -	10	0	0
Rent of three houses at the east end of the hospital - - - - -	16	0	0
From Porter's lease - - - - -	67	0	0
	103	0	0

The leases on this charity will expire in the following order, viz. Sheldon's in 1819—Porter's in 1821—Beardsley's in 1830—and Morris's in 1980.

### BRIDGEMASTERS' HOSPITAL.

On the north side, and near the top of Barker-gate, stood, till 1812, when they were taken down, five miserable looking thatched huts, in the presentation of the Bridgemasters; and the only donation which the occupiers received, as connected with the foundation, was two shillings each on St. Thomas' day. It is in the contemplation of the Corporation to rebuild this hospital in a respectable manner at some future time.

The origin of this institution is now lost; but had it formed a part of the royal bequest of Edward the Sixth, it would have been named in the deed of that monarch, which conveyed to the Corporation certain lands for the support of the Trent-bridge; therefore it is fair to conclude that this hospital was built by the Bridgemasters out of the surplus of their rents, arising from the bridge estate, before any part of that estate was parcelled out into burgess parts; the latter expedient, very probably, being adopted by the Bridgemasters in preference to that of erecting more houses, by way of giving a wider diffusion to their benefactions.

The site whereon this hospital stood, and what was used as garden ground by the occupiers, is a most eligible one indeed, and might be made highly advantageous to those persons who may hereafter become objects of the Bridgemasters' bounty. It possesses three uninterrupted fronts—the north and east being bounded by what is called, the *new burying ground*, and the south by Barker-gate, which is now a clean, airy, well paved street; nor is the western extremity of this land entirely devoid of advantage, as a road leads by it into Felix-place. The south and north fronts are each 72 feet, and the east and west 64, which give an area of 512 square yards, which considering the entire and unobstructable situation of the whole, would sell for as many pounds.—

Now, supposing the Corporation to devote as much waste land, at a nominal ground rent, as would admit the erecting of six dwellings upon it, which, unitedly, should cost three hundred pounds, or thereabouts, there would still remain a surplus of two hundred pounds, the interest of which might be distributed among the occupiers, in coal, or otherwise, except what was necessary to keep the building in repair.

In the year 1808, the author hereof had the honor of submitting the above scheme to one of the gentleman Bridgemasters, who expressed his approbation of it, and promised to use his influence to carry it into execution, or some other, equally advantageous to the occupiers of the hospital.

### *PATTEN'S ALMS-HOUSE.*

It appears that John Patten, a brickmaker of this town, by a nuncupatory will, made on the 8th of October, 1651, left a tenement in Barker-gate, near the end of Maiden-lane, to be converted into an alms-house for two poor persons; that George Arnall and Stephen Hill, two of his workmen, were his executors, and that the rents arising from the houses which they respectively occupied, near the before-named tenement, being also the founder's property, should be applied for ever to the keeping the said alms-house in repair, or, when repairs were not necessary, the same to be given in coal, or otherwise, to the occupiers of his said alms-house: the said Hill and Arnall, and their successors, to have the presentation respectively between them. It appears also, that, shortly after the death of the executors their successors disputed about the presentation; that the persons dwelling in the alms-house had each six shillings per annum as an endowment; and that, in consequence of such dispute, the successor of Arnall, whose name was Johnson, refused to pay his share of the annual stipend to the day of his death.

The premises which were possessed by Hill are now the property of Mr. Richard Smith, long known as foreman in the lace and hosiery warehouse of Mr. Thomas Hayne and Co.; and that part which fell into the hands of Arnall, afterwards became the property of one Dunn, a shoemaker, into whose family a person of the name of Morley intermarried, and thus became seized of that part of the founder's estate. While this part of the estate remained in the possession of Johnson, who married Arnall's daughter, he built a new house on the site of the old one, where, till within the last forty-eight years, dwelt a pipemaker, and where now stands the Punch Bowl public-house, the lease of which was bought some years ago, of Fillingham Morley and his brother for the term of their respective lives, by a person of the name of Spearing, now a soldier, whose wife at this time keeps the house.

Within the last fifty years, as the author is informed, the two dwellings, which constituted the alms-house, have been taken down, and two others built, on the east side of Maiden-lane, which consist of one room each on the ground floor, and which are now occupied by two old widows.—That which stands towards the north is in the presentation of the afore-named Mr. Smith, who pays to the occupier six shillings and sixpence every half year; and that standing nearest the Punch Bowl is in the presentation of the lessee of that house, who also pays six shillings and sixpence half yearly to the occupier. The owner or lessee of the Punch Bowl, till 1812, paid a

shilling a year to the occupier of the dwelling in the presentation of Mr. Smith ; but Mrs. Spearing now refuses to pay this trifle, which may therefore be considered as lost. No attention is now paid by the presentors to the keeping the premises in repair.

### BILBY'S HOSPITAL.

William Bilby, a native of this town, was one of those eccentric characters whose foibles are not censureable, if not even sometimes commendable, because the motive of action springs from purity of intention. Censure and reprobation are due on such occasions only when the conduct, which characterizes eccentricity, arises from dishonest or dishonorable motives ; and not when a commixture of error and honesty forms the lever.

The singular character we are speaking of followed the practice of surgery, of chymistry, of physic, of astronomy, and of astrology : he was also a shoemaker and a poet.\* The following inscription, as written by himself, was engraven on a stone in front of the hospital, but it is now wholly obliterated :—

The starry science I profess,  
And surgery withal,  
The chymical, among the rest,  
And physic rational.  
God gave and blessed  
What I possessed,  
And part of it I lent  
Unto the poor,  
For evermore,  
So raised this monument.

Ye men of wealth,  
Whilst now in health,  
Hearken to the cries,  
The poor redress,  
And God will bless  
Your evening sacrifice.

BY WILLIAM BILBY,  
IN THE 63d YEAR OF HIS AGE,  
1709.

No doubt, this singular character was considered the town oracle in his day ; and, to the various arts and sciences which he professed, it is quite clear we may add the amiable qualities which constitute the philanthropist ; for, as he possessed the *one thing needful*, he took care to leave a part of it to the *needy*, which circumstance forms a set-off against his folly in professing the sideral art.

The direct heirs of our philanthropist became extinct about the year 1796, by the death of a gentleman of the name of Bilby, long known in this town from the oddity of his manners, and for his being the editor of the Nottingham Journal. His wages as an editor are stated to have consisted in the pleasure he took in the employment ; and, at his death, he bequeathed the principal part of his property to Mr. George Burbage, proprietor of that paper ; thus preferring him, *who was rich*, to some distant relations, *who were poor*.—Though he inherited the principal part of the property, he did not inherit the spirit of his worthy ancestor. John Parr, a poor man, who had long been blind, and who died in 1814, upwards of eighty years of age, was the son of Catharine Parr, who was the daughter of a Mrs. Wood, whose maiden name was Bilby, and, according to information received on the subject, was sister to the generous founder of this charity. The said John Parr left one son and two daughters, namely, William Parr, Catharine Dewick, and Hannah

\* Though the regular business of our benefactor is not mentioned in the inscription, his having been a shoemaker is not the less true on that account ; that circumstance having been ascertained from another quarter.

Fry, the whole of whom are working people, and had families at the time the late Bilby died ; therefore he had a choice of needy relatives among whom to have disposed of his property, which was far from being inconsiderable, if he had been justly or generously disposed ; and, according to traditional opinion, they had a right to a considerable part of it ; but they had not the means of pursuing it through the perverting mazes of the law.

The hospital stands on the south side and near the east end of St. John's-street ; and consists of eight single room dwellings, four on the upper, and four on the ground floor. At the east end of the apartments are eight well built coalsheds, and at the back are the same number of distinct pantries, well guarded against the effects of the sun : there is also a well of good water. At the west end of the hospital is a plot of ground, about 75 feet by 32, which is equally divided into 8 gardens.

Formerly, each occupier had a twopenny loaf a week, a ton of coal a year ; and, on Christmas-day the mayor made a practice of dining with the whole, and after dinner, of giving them a shilling each, and dividing the broken victuals among them. In process of time the size of the loaf was increased to a threepenny one ; but, in 1804, Alderman Ashwell, during his first mayoralty, ordered the allowance of bread to be a sixpenny loaf a week, which still continues ; and, at Christmas, they have thirty or forty hundred of coal, and three shillings to buy a Christmas dinner ; the old practice of the mayor's dining with them being abandoned some time ago.

The estate belonging to this hospital consists of the Black Swan public-house in Goose-gate, and several contiguous tenements, the whole of which was leased to William Wesson, on the 4th of March, 1794, for the term of seventy years, at the annual rent of £16 ; on condition, that, " within the first twenty years of the term, the lessee should lay out four hundred pounds at the least, in pulling down the public-house and house adjoining, part of the demised premises, and in " rebuilding the same upon a line, as per plan"---vide, lease. On the 17th of December, 1813, this lease was transferred to Joseph Buller, in the corporate books ; the Corporation being the sole guardians of the estate, and presenters of the charity. In 1808, the rental of this estate, in the hands of the lessee, stood as follows :—

		£.	s.	d.
<i>Fronting Goose-gate.</i>	Mr. Savage*	40	0	0
	Mr. Marsh	10	10	0
	Mr. Tims	7	7	0
	Mr. Hollands	6	10	0
	Mr. Frere	5	5	0
<i>In Twig-alley.</i>	Mr. Talbot	4	0	0
	Mr. Fawkes	4	0	0
<i>In Wing-alley</i>	Mr. Addingstall	5	0	0
	Mr. Waldram	4	4	0
	Mr. Thomas	4	4	0
	Mr. Warsop	3	10	0
		94	10	0

\* When Mr. Wesson left the public-house he let it to Mr. Savage at the rent stated—the other persons named occupied separate tenements under the lessee.



In the face of this statement it may be proper to say, that the Corporation are about eight pounds a year losers by this charity, when the expenses of repairs, of which they are not sparing, are taken into the account. Among the few happy moments of the author's life, those may be set down as such, which he spent in examining this hospital. The humble apartment which he entered appeared like a little paradise—neatness, cleanliness, and usefulness smiled upon every utensil; but, the brightest ornament in it was its venerable occupier. The unerring ploughshare of time had furrowed deep her brow; and the busy hand of age had bleached her tresses white; yet intelligence beamed in her eyes—gratitude swelled her heart—and communication perched upon her lips.—What modest and becoming praise did she bestow upon Alderman Ashwell, for his having, unsolicited, doubled the allowance of bread! May he long continue to merit the praise you give him, my good woman, was the answer; and may others follow the example he has set them! Yes, said she, I hope he will; for they that relieve the widow, not only deserve our approbation and commendation, but they receive a sweet solace in the mind, from having followed the precepts of the great Redeemer, who will also doubly reward them hereafter.

The reader will have the goodness to pardon these little digressions, as they furnish food to the author's mind, when harrassed with painful investigation. The pleasure which he takes in recording the good actions of men, and the unaffected and honest effusions which flow spontaneously from grateful hearts, fully compensates him for the great trouble he has undergone in collecting materials for this composition. And, if stern and benumbing poverty, with its train of grim attendants, should beset his dying pillow, he will find a consolation in having done his duty, which is denied to guilt, though surrounded with sycophants, and clad in purple robes. The tremendous waves of adversity which buffet us, as we struggle through the sea of life, are always either heightened, or in some degree subdued, when the hour of dissolution arrives, by reflecting on the past conduct of our lives. Then the butterfly-tinsel of sycophantic adulation nauseates on the guilty mind; while the consciousness of having done our duty, inspires us with the brightening prospect of "another and a better world."

### GREGORY'S WHITE-RENTS.

Lord Coke, in his commentary on Magna Charta, states *white-rents* and *quit-rents* to signify the same thing; but, as Blackstone is much clearer on the subject, we will give his words to the reader. "*Rents of assise*," says that able civilian, "are the certain established rents of the freeholders and ancient copyholders of a manor, which cannot be departed from or varied." "Those of the freeholders are frequently called *chief rents*, *reditus capitales*; and both sorts are indifferently denominated *quit-rents*, *quieti reditus*; because thereby the tenant goes quite free of all other services. When these payments were reserved in silver, or white money, they were anciently called *white-rents*, or *blanch-farms*, *reditus albi*; in contradistinction to rents reserved in work, grain, &c. which were called *reditus nigri*, or *black maile*."

William Gregory, gent. town clerk of Nottingham, by his will, dated in 1613, bequeathed eleven tenements, situated on the south side and near the bottom of Hounds'-gate, for the use of the same

number of poor persons or families for ever, such persons belonging respectively to one of the three parishes ; and he entailed a ground rent of forty shillings a year upon a close, called *Baycroft-close*, near Bluebell-hill in the Clayfields, to keep them in repair.\* These tenements, very probably, obtained the appellation of *white-rents* from the estate being one of the last in the town for which the owner paid a quit-rent to the Peverel family—the transition from quit-rent to white-rent being fully explained above from Blackstone. As Mr. Gregory was a servant to the corporate body of this town, so he constituted them the guardians of his charity ; but, from some motives for which it seems difficult to account, they leased the whole of the white-rents, in equal portions, to the three parishes, on the 4th of September, 1732, (which leases commenced on the 25th of March in the same year) for the term of 999 years, for the mere consideration of a pepper corn rent.

The sacrifice of patronage which the Corporation thus made was a consideration wholly their own ; but their giving up the charity is lamentable, inasmuch as by its falling into the hands of self-interested or indifferent churchwardens and overseers, the forty shillings a year, payable from the holder of *Baycroft-close*, is now likely to be lost ; whereas, had the Corporation continued to be the claimants this would not have been the case. After the leases were granted this money was paid regularly to the several parishes in divisions of thirteen shillings and fourpence each, till from carelessness or design—perhaps both—the money was withheld. Certain it is, however, that it was paid by Mr. Thomas Evison, as renter of the close, about the year 1794 ; and certain it is also, that, since Mr. William Stretton was chosen churchwarden of St. Mary's, which, if I mistake not, was in the year 1802, this money has never been paid, he becoming proprietor of the close in question about that time.† Mr. Robert Booth, as senior churchwarden, went to Mr. Stretton, and made a formal demand of this money, in 1811. when the latter refused to pay it, on the pretext, *that, as the white-rents had been removed from Hounds'-gate he thought he could not be compelled to pay the money* ; and thus the matter rested, in May, 1815 ; and thus, I doubt, it will for ever rest.

That part of the white-rents which was allotted to St. Peter's parish, was converted into a workhouse ; and the other parishes neglected to keep their parts in repair, till, to reside in them was a mark of reproach. They at length became the receptacle only for sweeps, tinkers, rag-gatherers, beggars, pedlers, prostitutes of the lowest class, and vermin ; and, being in the heart of the town, public opinion exerted itself to have them removed, as a common nuisance. This object was accomplished in 1788—the parishes sold their leases ; and the ground on which they stood is now occupied with a range of tradesmens' houses. St. Peter's parish obtained a plot of ground in Broad-marsh whereon to erect a workhouse. St. Mary's parish erected twelve single room dwellings on the north side of York-street, nearly opposite to the back of the workhouse.

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\* This close is bounded on the west by Wood-lane ; and in the Clayfield survey is marked 399.

† Mr. Stretton served the office of churchwarden four succeeding years, as the choice of the vicar.

On the front of these is a stone bearing the following inscription :—

THESE ALMS-HOUSES BUILT IN LIEU OF THE WHITE-RENTS  
LATE IN HOUNDS'-GATE, A. D. 1788.

RICHARD FEATHERSTONE,	}	CHURCHWARDENS.
WILLIAM KELK,		
WILLIAM ABNETT,	}	OVERSEERS.
JOHN COLEMAN,		

St. Nicholas's erected eight of a similiar description, on the north bank of the Leen, between Finkhill-street and Greyfriars-gate. None of the poor occupiers have any allowance ; while, as a deduction upon the charity itself, the overseers of St. Mary's, in 1807, demanded the manure from the persons in the dwellings at their disposal ; which practice, I hope more unwittingly than designedly adopted, is still pursued.

### COLLIN'S HOSPITAL.

*Abel Collin*, by his last will and testament, dated February the 4th, 1704, left the remainder of his personal estate, after legacies and other bequests had been discharged, to his nephew, Mr. Thomas Smith, in trust for his building and endowing this hospital. In 1709, Mr. Smith executed this part of the worthy founder's will in a manner highly to his credit, by erecting a fabric, handsome, commodious, and durable, consisting of twenty-four dwellings, for the accommodation of a like number of poor widows and widowers, there being a good house-place and closet on the ground floor, and two good chambers on the second story. The rooms are also very lofty, a circumstance which does credit both to the head and heart of the executor. The premises are bounded on the north by Friar-lane, on the east by Spaniel-row, on the south by Hounds'-gate, and, partly on the west by the Baptists' chapel, and partly by other buildings which run to Hounds'-gate. The building consists of two separate erections, one of which contains twenty, and the other four dwellings ; the whole of which is ornamented with rustic stone work, which, now it is kept in a proper state of painting, gives a good effect. The whole is surrounded with a wall, which also encloses a well paved walk, and the principal part of which is topt with iron palisades. Upon a stone placed in the north front is engraven the following inscription :—

**This Hospital,**  
by the appointment of *Abel*  
*Collin*, late of *NOTTINGHAM*,  
*MERCER*, deceased, who in his life  
was of an extensive Charitie  
to the *Poor* of all *SOCIETIES*,  
and at his death by his last  
*Will* and *Testament*, left a  
competent *ESTATE* for erect-  
ing and endowing the same ; was  
by his *Nephew* and *EXECUTOR*  
*Thomas Smith*, begun and fi-  
nished in the Year 1709.

The words in the worthy founder's will, concerning this charity are the following:—"And I do nominate and ordain, constitute and appoint, my loving cousin, Mr. Thomas Smith, full and sole executor of this my last will and testament, and for his pains to be taken in the execution of this my last will and testament, I give him the sum of fifty pounds, of lawful money of England, providing always, and it is my mind and will, that the remainder and surplusage of my personal estate, after the full performance of this my last will and testament, and all matters and things therein expressed, I do give and bequeath the same unto my said executor of this my last will and testament to be by him employed and bestowed in the building of some little houses and endowing the same for some poor men and women to dwell in, belonging to some of the aforesaid several parishes;" meaning the parishes of St. Mary, St. Nicholas, and St. Peter in this town.

The wealthy successors to Mr. Smith, the executor, of which family Lord Carrington is the head, have conducted themselves with exemplary propriety, as far as an estimate can be formed of such conduct by persons not knowing the real value of the endowing estate; for, independent of the expense of repairing the building, which, in 1814 and 15, must have been considerable, the allowance to the poor occupiers has been gradually increased in a fair proportion to the increase of rents. About forty years ago [it may be a less time, for the author has not an exact statement of the year] this allowance consisted of two shillings a week to each person and thirty hundred of coal a year. As the estate increased in value, three shillings were given along with forty hundred of coal; and at the present time the money is four shillings, and the quantity of coal continues as last stated. There has been some talk of another shilling being added, which probably may be done in a short time. The old people in the hospital speak highly of the correctness and punctuality with which their money is paid; and there can be no doubt, that a family so distinguished as the Smiths are, will ever suffer a monument, so honorable to their ancestry, to go to decay; for, the writer of this, would rather see a monument of this kind to the memory of his ancestors, than one in Westminster Abbey; though he is far from undervaluing the merits of those worthies whose figures grace that ancient fabric.

### ***LABRAY'S HOSPITAL,***

(ERRONEOUSLY CALLED LABOURER'S HOSPITAL.)

Jonathan Labray was a framework-knitter by trade, and resided at Calverton, a village eight miles hence, in his younger days; but having acquired some property, he came to Nottingham and entered upon the hosiery business, and resided, as the author has been informed, in an old porched house, still standing, in St. Peter's-gate, opposite to the entrance into the churchyard.—He died an old bachelor, and left his property, which consisted in land at Calverton, in trust to Mr. Thomas Smith, the honorable executor to the will of Abel Collin, for him to erect and endow an hospital in Nottingham for poor and aged framework-knitters: an annual rent charge was also entailed upon the estate for the support of a school at Calverton. The date of Mr. Labray's will, the time of his death, or the precise period at which the hospital was erected, I have not been able to ascertain; but, that all these circumstances took place about the close of the seventeenth century there seems little doubt, from Mr. Thomas Smith being the founder's executor, and from the interior formation of the dwellings, of which this hospital consists, corresponding with those in

Friar-lane; which formed the subject of the preceding article. There is reason to believe, however, that Labray's hospital was erected a short time previous to that of Collin's, because the latter, till very lately, bore the distinctive appellation of "*The new hospital*;" though, considering the whimsicality of custom, this is not to be depended on as a sure criterion.

The building stands upon a most eligible site on the north side of the Derby-road; and consists of six dwellings in one uniform row. There are also conveniences behind, such as a well of good water, a private vault, and to each a plot of garden ground about the size of the respective houses. The whole is kept in a good state of repair.

Some time after Mr. Smith had erected this hospital, which he endowed with one shilling and tenpence a week to each dwelling, as Deering states it, he found a poor female relation of the founder's, and gave her two hundred pounds as a marriage dowry; on which account he reduced the allowance to the school to six pounds a year, and it continues so at the present time.\*

The estate, from which this charity emanates, was let on lease for fifty years, at fifty pounds annual rent, which lease expired in 1807, when the rent was doubled. This induced an opinion, that the allowance of the hospital would be advanced, which, however, was retarded by the great repairs which the hospital required; but, in January, 1811, the expectations of the poor occupiers were in some degree realized by having their pay increased to three shillings a week; and in December, 1813, this was further increased to four shillings a week.

It seems our benefactor was no friend to the fair sex—probably he had conceived a disgust against them from some disappointment in a love affair; for he left a strict injunction, that on the death of the husband, the widow should not enjoy the benefit of his charity; which injunction is strictly attended to; for, on the death of one of the occupiers, if he leave a widow, she is immediately under the necessity of quitting the premises; that is, as soon as the corpse is removed.

### LAMBLEY HOSPITAL.

Previous to entering on the particulars of this hospital, it may be proper to premise, that the corporate body of Nottingham, during more than a century, have appropriated the rent of an estate, which they possess at Lambley, a village seven miles hence, towards apprenticing poor burgesses' boys; a charity which has hitherto passed unnoticed by every writer that has touched on the affairs of Nottingham. In 1794, when Lambley lordship was inclosed, the measure and annual value of this estate were made in seven different allotments as follows:—

A.	R.	P.														£.	s.	d.
18	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	17	5
21	1	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	1	7
17	3	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	5	5
16	0	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	10	0
0	3	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	17	0
24	0	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	0	0
4	2	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	0
103	2	14														81	16	5

\* This school was erected by a public subscription raised by the inhabitants of the village; but Samuel Smith, Esq. trustee to the charity, keeps it in repair.

This money (or whatever the sum might be) was regularly disposed of by the Corporation, in common hall assembled, to such burgesses as they thought most deserving towards putting their sons out apprentices, till 1811, when it was determined to dispose of it in another way. At its first appropriation, and a number of years after, it was divided into four pound shares; but as the claimants began to increase very fast, each share was reduced to three pounds; and this plan continued till the Corporation, very properly, determined to appropriate the income of the estate to the erecting an hospital, to which they gave the name of *Lambley Hospital*, for the accommodation of such poor burgesses or their widows, as might, from age or otherwise, become objects of their bounty.\* The foundation of this hospital was laid by Edward Swann, Esq. mayor, on Monday the 2d of November, 1812; and one of the dwellings was occupied by William Wheatley, an old burgess, on the 6th of March following; and the others were occupied in succession as they were got ready. The building consists of two wings and a back centre, which contain twenty-two dwellings, with a pantry and rock cellar to each—it stands on a most delightful spot near the top of the Derby-road, with the front facing the south, while every door opens upon a well flagged path which surrounds a beautiful plot of greensward. Every attention which architectural design, combined with neatness and simplicity, could dispense, has been bestowed upon these habitations, to render them comfortable retreats to old age. At present, however, there is no endowment: nor can any be expected till the rent of the estate has discharged the cost of building; and then it will be entirely optional on the part of the corporate body.†

The occupiers of the charity are considered *tenants at will*; every succeeding mayor being considered as the immediate dispenser of the bounty; though this regulation, it is presumed, is not intended to produce any other effect, than that of enabling the mayor to remove any of the occupiers, whose conduct might render them unworthy objects of public bounty, and who might be troublesome to their peaceable and aged neighbours.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE ALMS-HOUSES.

It would require the pen of a Howard and the descriptive genius of a Crabbe to give full effect to the various sensations which operate on the mind of the sentimental philosopher while visiting these monuments of piety and munificence. Here the visitor will see the *stems* or *trunks*, that once supported athletic vigour, and others that were adorned with the glowing and irresistible charms of captivation, drooping to meet the stroke of death. Here he will see wretchedness surrounded with filth, and comfort in the centre of cleanliness. In some of the habitations he will hear the bitterest complaints against those who are supposed to withhold some part of the founder's bequest; while in others the melodious sound of praise will vibrate in his ears, in honor of the benefactors and guardians. The writer hereof visited them all; and, of the situation of all he has

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\* An indenture in my possession made out in the name of Solomon Baker, and dated 1708, acknowledges the receipt of *four pounds* of the *Lambley* money.

† A person of the name of William Robinson offered £400 rent for this estate; but, in 1814, the Corporation reduced it to £340, in consequence of the price of grain falling; and the tenant then thought it much too high, as he himself informed me in the spring of 1815, when he was in quest of another farm.

endeavoured to give a true relation : and, if any one should be offended at the frankness therein displayed, or at what may follow on this subject, he is recommended to take the import of the next words into consideration—*The man that censures another for having done his duty, betrays either perverseness of disposition, or a consciousness of having committed deeds which would blacken his character in the face of day ; while unwittingly he is dealing out praise to him, whose good name he is seeking to stigmatize.*

It must be manifest to every man of candour, who has attentively perused the foregoing part of this chapter, that very serious evils have resulted from the trustees of some of the charities having let those estates on long leases from which the attending endowments emanate. The writer hereof could mention one case in which a sum of £40 was given to the relation of a lessor, which, of course, would produce a contract highly disadvantageous to the poor and aged objects of the founder's bequest, and whose interest it was his duty to have considered ; but, as even no common ruffian would be disposed to covet the possession of his character, his name shall not be inserted here. This, however, ought not to be the less a warning to other casual trustees ; for another writer may not be inclined to spare a wretch, merely through the fear of sullyng his pages with such names.

It is too much the case with men, who have no immediate interest in upholding these institutions, to content themselves with saying, when they see the buildings tumbling in ruins,—“ It is a pity, “ to be sure, to see the monuments, which were raised by the hand of benevolence in past ages, “ either converted to purposes opposed to the pious intentions of their founders, or suffered to go “ to decay ; but then, it is no business of mine.” If the suffering these buildings to go to decay, or seeing their respective endowments applied to purposes different to what they were intended, are gross perversions of justice, most assuredly the fugitive answer above named is a gross perversion both of common sense and common prudence. For, if the principles of humanity to the living, and of justice to the good deeds of the dead, will not stimulate men to action, the seldom sleeping principle of self-interest, one would think, would have the desired effect ; as ALL, except immediate speculators, have a common interest in preserving those habitations and endowments, the object of which is to keep poor people off their parish. And, for want of the business being taken up in an authoritative manner, it may be easily seen, by looking over the list of public charities, that many evils have resulted to society—We will shew one most glaring instance.—Margary Mellors, widow, (independent of some property which she bequeathed to the Corporation in trust, towards keeping the Trent bridges in repair,) by her last will and testament, dated the 9th of June, 1539, left four cottages and their appurtenances on the Low-pavement, which were to be converted into an hospital for six poor women for ever ; the mayor of the town, and rector of St. Peter's parish for the time being, to be perpetual trustees of and presenters to the charity. They stood on the north side of the street, and included a stable and garden, &c. and, from information handed down from generation to generation in the family of Simpsons, which occupied the Artichokes public-house in Pepper-street, during a succession of ages, it appears that the assembly rooms and some adjacent buildings now stand upon the premises which this worthy widow had devoted to charitable purposes. We may also mention a charity, left by Robert Sherwin, for the benefit of six poor widows of St.

Peter's parish, the payment of which, a few years ago, was withheld. Public apathy would have seen the widows robbed of their mites, had not Dr. Staunton, then rector of the parish, stepped forwards on the occasion, in a manner highly to his credit, both as a clergyman and a gentleman.

To remedy the glaring evils which arise out of the avariciousness of executors, and the neglect or dishonesty of guardians, the author begs leave to submit the following plan :—

1st. A committee to be established, called "*The committee of benefactions*," to consist of the Mayor, two Aldermen, and the senior Churchwardens of the three parishes.

2dly. Such committee to order a copy of the will of every testator that has bequeathed any legacy, great or small, to all, or any of the three parishes.

3dly. The copies of wills thus procured, to be kept in the guildhall ; and access to be had to them under the local regulations of the committee.

4thly. One day in the year to be appropriated to an investigation into the state of the hospitals, as well respecting the buildings, as the manner in which their respective endowments are paid. On which day (or at some other specified time) the churchwardens to produce copies of leases, bonds, debentures, &c. which they may have executed, on account of public charities, by virtue of their office, in the course of the preceeding year ; and also an account of all minor charities which may have passed through their hands.

5thly. If, at such investigation, any of the charities remain unpaid, the person or persons, whose duty it was to have paid them, to be served with proper notices, signed by the chairman of the committee, giving him, her, or they to understand, if such money, or moneys, be not paid within a time therein specified, that law proceedings will be commenced for the recovery of the same.

6thly. No churchwarden or other public officer to grant a lease of any charitable property, of which he may be the trustee by virtue of his office, without first consulting the *committee of benefactions* on the subject ; nor then, except by their advice.

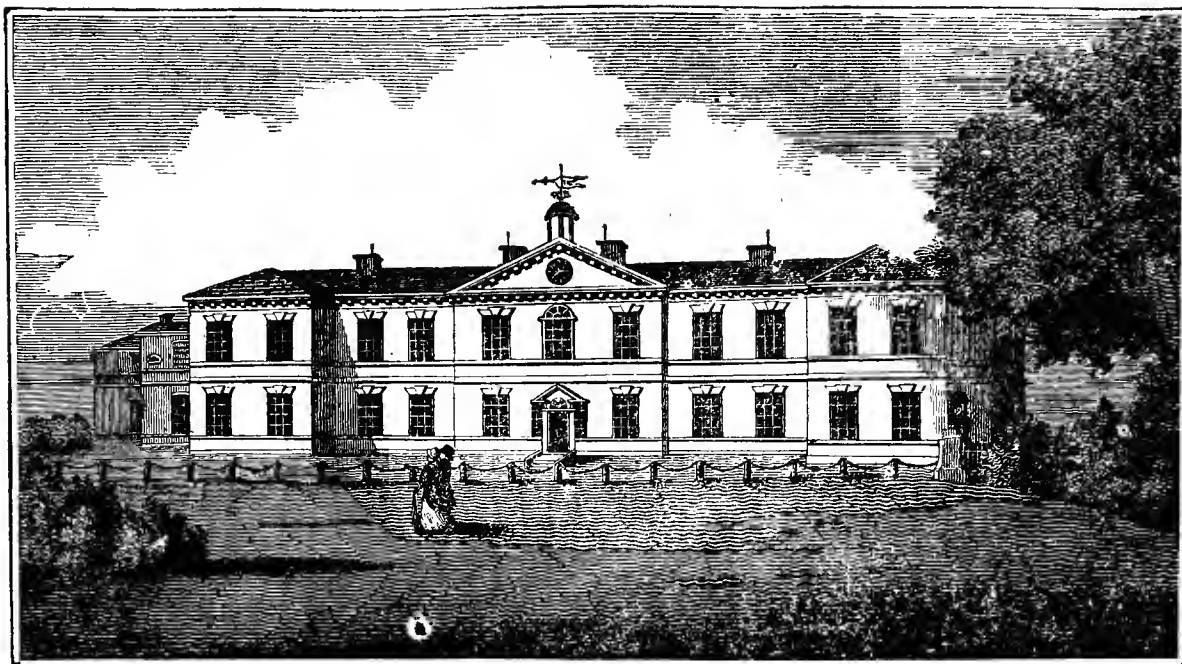
7thly. All expenses incurred by the *committee of benefactions*, whether in obtaining copies of wills, &c. in prosecutions, for the enforcement of payments depending on charities, or otherwise, to be defrayed by a town rate.

8thly. A professional man to be employed as a secretary, whose duty it should be to keep proper records of all proceedings, to warn in the committee to meet, on ordinary as well as extraordinary occasions.

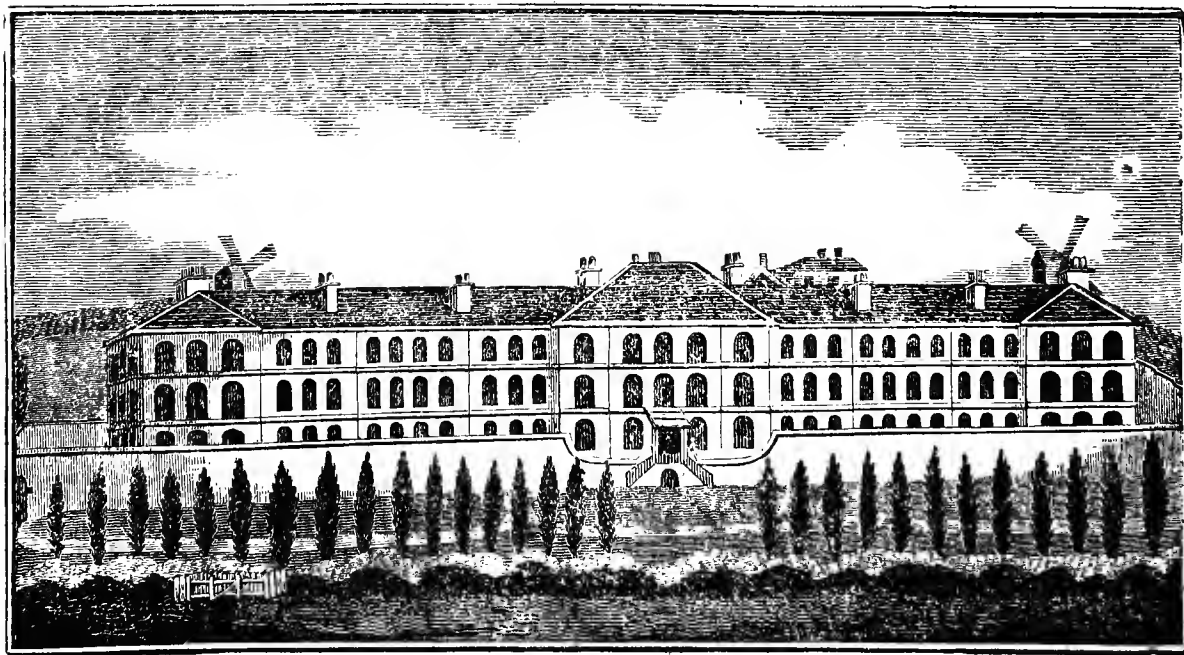
A measure of this kind would be sanctified by public approbation, and its proceedings would be converted into law—law, which none but the most abandoned would ever dare to think of violating, for fear of immediate expulsion from the ranks of civilized society. The hospitals would be well attended to, and, consequently, would be kept in good repair—the endowments would be applied in a manner consistent with the intentions of the pious founders and benefactors—-an additional portion of happiness would be extended to those whose years and infirmities have a peculiar claim on our solicitude—the poor would bless the committee ; and the members of the committee would feel themselves amply rewarded for their trouble in the enjoyment of those blessings, and in the consciousness of having performed a great and public good.







***THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.***



***THE GENERAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.***

Most sincerely it is to be hoped, that the too frequently delusive enjoyments of *present situation* will not so far influence any gentleman's mind, as to induce him to think the honorable task, above pointed out, beneath his notice---capricious fortune deals out her favors and her frowns without discrimination ; and the man who is floating in wealth to-day, to-morrow may be without a penny. The fortunate circumstance of the German noble's refusing to let his daughter marry a wealthy suitor until the latter had learnt a trade, may be contemplated here with proper effect. It is well known, that a gentleman who was chief magistrate of Nottingham since the year 1792, who possessed the good things of this life in great abundance, and whose popularity and influence were most extensive, died, shortly after having passed through the high dignity of his magisterial elevation, in the midst of poverty, and of a broken heart, leaving a widow to subsist on the bounty of her friends. A gentleman too, whom the author and many of his friends well knew, as the first practical attorney in Derbyshire, was reduced about the same time from his distinguished station, and by means apparently unaccountable, to the necessity of receiving parochial relief, and even of begging from door to door. *Wealth*, however transient its possession, and though it is not always attended with unmixed happiness, will never cease to be desirable to the great bulk of mankind, because it seldom fails of furnishing the means of personal gratification, whether such gratification be of a virtuous or a vicious kind. *Wealth*, as far as relates to its own inherent and abstract qualities, requires little else than such inherent and abstract qualities as a guarantee ; whereas *poverty* trembles at every approaching blast. *Wealth* when contrasted with *poverty*, is like a man armed cap-a-pee being opposed to one in an entirely defenceless state. *Wealth*, like the sturdy oak in the forest, braves almost every tempest ; while *poverty*, like the misletoe or the hop-bind, requires aid to give it erection. But, by an honest and judicious management of public charities, even poverty, in many instances, may be converted into an asylum for fallen greatness, where the bitter pangs of reflection may be deprived of most of their effects by the fostering hand of care.

### GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The necessity of an institution of this kind had been long and most severely felt, before an object so desirable could be accomplished ; the laudable exertions of many humane persons being required for its attainment on a scale anywise commensurate with public necessity and public expectation. A most commanding spot of ground consisting of two acres, near to the south-western extremity of the town, and just without the boundaries thereof, was at length furnished by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle and the Corporation of Nottingham conjointly, free of expense, for the site of the building, garden, &c. and on the 12th of February, 1781, the foundation stone was laid by John Smellie, Esq. mayor, amidst a vast concourse of spectators, on which occasion he addressed them in the following words :—

“ Gentlemen, I am come here, at the request of the committee of the general hospital, to lay the foundation stone of that charitable institution. I am well satisfied it will be of considerable advantage to many sick and lame poor, in the present and future ages. When I consider the noble benefactions and generous subscriptions which have been presented, it affords a pleasing prospect of its utility being continued to posterity. Therefore, in my official character, I think

“ it my duty to give countenance and protection to so laudable an undertaking. I shall be happy  
 “ if my conduct meets with your approbation ; and I can assure you, that the most acceptable  
 “ return you can make to me, will be to preserve peace and good order on this solemn occasion.”

Under the stone, which was laid at the south-east corner of the building, were placed money  
 of the various coinage of his present majesty's reign, and a brass plate over them, engraved by  
 Mr. J. Farnworth, watch and clockmaker of this town, containing the following inscription :—  
 “ General Hospital, near Nottingham, open to the sick poor of any county. On the 12th day of  
 “ February, 1781, John Smellie, Esq. mayor of Nottingham, laid the first stone of the building.  
 “ The Corporation gave the ground for the said hospital. JOHN SIMPSON, *Architect.*”

To tell the reader, that this is a useful institution, would be like informing him that dormant  
 vegetation is restored to perfection by the genial influence of nature's all-cheering sun. I shall  
 therefore wave all encomiums on the benefactors, subscribers, &c. and insert the thirty-third annual  
 report, as presented by the auditors of the institution to the subscribers ; and, when this book is  
 nearly destroyed by the ravaging hand of time, may the pages which contain it be particularly  
 preserved.

*Thirty-third annual report of the state of the General Hospital, near Nottingham, (open to  
 the sick and lame poor of any county or nation,) from the 25th of March, 1814, to the 25th  
 of March, 1815.*

“ In presenting to the public this, the thirty-third report, since the establishment of this hospital,  
 “ we are happy to announce the general satisfactory state of the charity, and the pleasing prospect  
 “ of the continuance of its good effects to the latest generations.

“ In a populous commercial nation, the number and wants of the poor, will, from a variety of  
 “ causes (which the utmost sagacity of man can neither foresee nor prevent,) be very great ; but  
 “ in these institutions a powerful remedy is found ; and, at the same time, the great and important  
 “ cause of religion is assiduously promoted. What but brotherly love and christian charity could  
 “ draw the attention of those, who are blest with the means of doing good, to the distresses of their  
 “ fellow-creatures ? And how can the poor receive the relief afforded, without lifting up their  
 “ hands in thankful gratitude to the Almighty Being, who put it into the hearts of those whom he  
 “ hath made his stewards of his bounty, to dispense his blessings !

“ Thus may christians of all ranks and denominations unite in carrying on this great work ; and  
 “ at the consummation of all things, be blessed with this testimony of our Lord and Saviour Jesus  
 “ Christ, “ Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren,  
 “ ye have done it unto me.”

“ Such considerations, together with the satisfaction that must ever result from the consciousness  
 “ of having made lighter the sufferings, and contributed to the happiness, both temporal and  
 “ eternal, of our fellow-creatures will, doubtless, not only insure the continuance of that generous  
 “ support which the hospital has already experienced, but also raise up new friends ; so that this  
 “ useful institution may still go on and prosper, from generation to generation.

“ The governors have to inform the friends of the charity and the public in general, that among  
 “ the late alterations, a steam engine has been erected, and two warm baths constructed, heated

“ by steam, for the accommodation of the public, in addition to those set apart for the use of the patients : other considerable conveniencies have also been obtained, by a washing machine, steam table, &c.

“ The conducting of this charity is vested in the hands of the governors : all subscribers of two guineas or more a year, or benefactors of fifty pounds or upwards, are governors ; a committee of whom meet every Tuesday morning, at eleven o'clock, to do the current business of the hospital, to examine the reports of the house visitors, to admit and discharge patients, to receive the complaints or proposals of all persons, and to prepare such matters as are proper for the consideration of the general board. A general board of the governors is held twice a year, viz. on the 25th of March, at which board the president for the year, auditors, and deputy receiver, are annually chosen ; the accounts inspected and settled ; an abstract of the same laid before them ; together with the number of patients received and discharged in the preceding year, and printed for the satisfaction of the public ; and sometime in October, of which timely notice will be given, and which is considered as the general anniversary meeting of all the friends of the general hospital, and of the lunatic asylum, a sermon is preached before them at St. Mary's church, a collection made for the two charities alternately, and the friends of both dine together.

“ The governors think it highly necessary to request the subscribers to be particularly cautious not to recommend such as are improper, either from the nature of their complaint, or from their circumstances. As to the former, the governors wish to admit only such as there is a probable hope of curing, or at least of relieving ; and therefore in all doubtful cases, they desire that the subscribers will consult some apothecary as to the propriety of sending such patient, or let the case be briefly represented by some judicious person, in a letter to the secretary, before the patient is sent, to prevent the expense and fatigue of a fruitless journey. As to the latter, it is but justice to the physicians and surgeons, who generously attend the infirmary gratis, to exclude all such as are not able to subsist themselves and to pay for medicines. That the intention of contributors may be directed to this very important particular, it is judged proper to re-publish the 14th rule, for the admission of patients, (viz.) “ No domestic servant or other, shall, merely on that account, be excluded the benefit of the hospital, but it shall be left to the determination of the committee how far the servant recommended is, or is not, a proper object ; which committee will also consider that it is contrary to the intention of this charity to relieve those who are able to pay for relief ; and it is reasonable to suppose that all masters (whether subscribers or not) who are in affluent circumstances, will not desire them to be relieved at the public expense, to the detriment of more necessitous objects, and to the disadvantage of the surgeons, who give their attendance gratis.”

“ Benefactors of one hundred pounds, and upwards, or subscribers of five guineas or more, annually, shall have the power of recommending six in. and twenty out-patients annually ; but shall not have more than two at any one time in the house.

“ Subscribers of two guineas annually, or benefactors of fifty pounds, shall recommend two in-patients, and three out-patients in a year, having only one in-patient at one time ; allowing also a proportionable privilege to those who are both benefactors and subscribers.

“Subscribers of one guinea annually, or twenty guineas in benefaction, shall recommend two out-patients in a year, and during the term of ten years for the benefaction of ten guineas.

*As this establishment cannot be conducted without adhering to the rules and orders made for the government of it, which have been printed and published for the general information of all persons whatsoever ; the subscribers and contributors to this hospital are desired to take particular notice of the following RULES AND ORDERS :*

“1st. That no person can recommend a patient whilst his subscription is in arrear, nor any persons be admitted patients who are able to subsist themselves, and pay for medicines ; and that every person will be discharged of course by the committee, within two months after admission, unless the physicians and surgeons have reason to believe the patient may receive some considerable benefit by a further trial.

“2d. That no person can be admitted a patient (except in cases of accidents, which are taken in at any hour of the day or night, beds being always kept ready for that purpose) without a recommendatory letter, signed by a subscriber or benefactor, in the following manner :---

“*To the Governors of the General Hospital, near Nottingham.*

“Gentlemen,---I recommend to your examination A. Z. of the parish of ---, whom I believe to be a real object of charity, and desire he may be admitted an out (or in) patient of the hospital, if duly qualified.

Age, --- disease, --- how long ill, --- I am, your humble servant, &c.”

“N. B. This letter under the hand of every person who recommends a patient, must be delivered to the weekly committee on Tuesday morning, between ten and eleven o'clock ; and in case of death, the person, &c. who recommended the deceased, must either remove the corpse, or defray the burial expense, which will be reduced to as small a sum as decency will permit ; and if a distant patient be not removed on his discharge, the governors will send such patient home at the parish expense, by an order from a justice of peace.

“Governors who recommend patients at a distance from Nottingham, are desired to send before hand a letter, directed to the secretary, with a short statement of their case, drawn up by some physician, surgeon or apothecary, that some judgment may be formed whether they are proper objects of the charity ; and likewise to enquire if the beds are all occupied : an answer will be returned when they can be admitted.

“3d. No persons to be admitted who are able to subsist themselves, and pay for their cure ; no woman big with child ; no child under six years of age, except in extraordinary cases, as fractures, or where cutting for the stone, or any other operation is required ; no person, disordered in their senses, suspected to have the small-pox, venereal disease, itch, or other infectious distempers ; having habitual ulcers in their legs, cancers not admitting operation, consumptions, or dropsies in their last stages, epileptic or other fits, that are apprehended to be in a dying condition, or incurable, shall be admitted as in-patients, or if inadvertently admitted, be suffered to continue ; and no one shall be admitted, or suffered to remain as in-patient, who is capable of receiving equal benefit as an out-patient.

“N. B. As no person suspected to have any infectious distemper can, by the above rule, be admitted, the governors desire all persons to give directions that the patients they recommend, be sent to the hospital in decent cloathing, free from vermin, and with proper change of linen, that they may be kept clean.

“4th. That no patient discharged for irregularity or disorderly behaviour, be received again into this hospital upon any recommendation whatsoever.

“5th. That no person related to the hospital, do at any time presume (on pain of expulsion) to give or take of any tradesman, patient, servant, stranger, or other person, any fee, reward, or gratuity of any kind, directly or indirectly, for any service done, or to be done, on account of this hospital.

“6th. That a letter be sent to all subscribers whose subscriptions are in arrear ; which it is hoped, none will be offended at, as they may forget to make their payments regularly

“7th. When there are more patients recommended than can be admitted, preference is given in the first place, to those who come from the greatest distance ; in the second place, to those who have not recommended within the year ; and in the third place, to such as are recommended by the greatest subscribers, and whose admission the

*All such as are disposed to contribute to the support of this infirmary by their last will, are desired to do it in the manner following---for want of due attention to which several sums bequeathed to charities of this kind have been lost.*

## BENEF ACTIONS.

Arkwright Richard, Esq. Willersley	£200	0	0	Brought forward	-	-	£2518	0	0
Archbishop of York, His Grace the	100	0	0	Ditto, a second Benefaction	-	-	50	0	0
Aldrich Dr. Cockglode, near Ollerton	50	0	0	Cheslins Miss, Nottingham	-	-	10	10	0
Acklom Jonathan, Esq. Wiseton	25	0	0	Devonshire, His Grace the Duke of, Chats-					
Ditto, a second Benefaction	25	0	0	worth	-	-	100	0	0
Bainbridge Mrs. Eliz. Woodborough	1000	0	0	Denison John, Esq. Ossington	-	-	50	0	0
Birch J. Esq. M. P. Hasle Hall, Lancashire	105	0	0	Dashwood Cha. Vere, Esq. Stanford Hall			50	0	0
Bentinck Lord Edward, R. H.	100	0	0	Denison Robert, Esq. Ossington	-	-	20	0	0
Boothby Sir W. Bart. Mansfield Woodhouse	50	0	0	Emmertton John W. Esq. Thrumpton	-	-	50	0	0
Barry Pendock, Esq. Rocla Veston	105	0	0	Elliott William, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	50	0	0
Bury Mrs. Nottingham	50	0	0	Elliott William, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	50	0	0
Bingham Rev. James, Wartnaby	30	0	0	Eyre A. H. Esq. Grove	-	-	50	0	0
Bristowe Samuel, Esq. Twyford	31	10	0	Edge Thomas, Esq. Strelley	-	-	31	10	0
Barnard Rev. Mr. Cortlingstock	21	0	0	Evans Francis, Esq. Lenton Grove	-	-	10	10	0
Barnes David, Esq. Chesterfield	21	0	0	Evans Rev. Mr.	-	-	10	10	0
Bourne Rev. L. Dronfield, Derbyshire	21	0	0	Evans Miss	-	-	10	10	0
Brothers Mr. (an acknowledgment accep-				Franks Mrs. Elizabeth	-	-	20	0	0
ted by him on waving a prosecution)				Fellows John, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	20	0	0
Nottingham	21	0	0	Gregory G. D. L. Esq. Hungerton Hall			100	0	0
Burnell Mrs. Southwell	10	10	0	Gregory Mrs. Susan, Nottingham	-	-	50	0	
Buxton Mr. John, Nottingham	10	10	0	Gisborne Rev. T. Yoxhall Lodge, Staf-					
Bolton Mr. Samuel, Nottingham	10	10	0	fordshire	-	-	50	0	0
Buck Mr. Samuel, Holwell, Leicestershire	10	0	0	Gawthern F. Esq. Nottingham	-	-	21	0	0
Cavendish Lord Charles	100	0	0	Green Rev. W. Hardingham, Norfolk			21	0	0
Chaworth W. Esq. Annesley	100	0	0	Gregory Rev. Mr. Langar	-	-	10	10	0
Cryne Dr. Kenelworth, near Coventry	100	0	0	Hayford Mrs. Oxtou	-	-	100	0	0
Carrington Right Hon. Lord	50	0	0	Hayne Richard, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	50	0	0
Coke Daniel Parker, Esq. Derby	50	0	0	Holden Robert, Esq. Darley, near Derby			50	0	0
Coke Rev. D'Ewes, Brookhill Hall, near				Huisk Mark, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	30	0	0
Mansfield	50	0	0	Heathcote Rev. Edward, East Bridgford			21	0	0
Crofts Mrs. (after her decease, by Mrs.				Hall Rev. Robert, Stubton	-	-	21	0	0
Hunt)	50	0	0	Infirmary, a Friend to the	-	-	400	0	0
Clifton r Gervas, Bart. Clifton Grove	21	0	0	Jerom Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	50	0	0
	2518	0	0				4076	0	0

Brought over	-	-	£4076	0	0	Brought forward	-	£6591	0	0
Knight John, Esq. Langold	-	-	50	0	0	Priault Rev. P. East Bridgford	-	21	0	0
Kaye Rev. Sir R. Bart. Dean of Lincoln	-	-	25	0	0	Padley Robert, Esq. Burton	-	21	0	0
Kirkby Rev. Richard, Gedling	-	-	21	0	0	Parker Heneage, Esq. Mansfield Wood-				
Lovet Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	100	0	0	house	-	10	10	0
Launder Cornelius, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	50	0	0	Rolleston L. Esq. Watnall	-	30	0	0
Launder Rev. A. C. Nottingham	-	-	25	0	0	Robinson Joseph, Esq. Bulwell	-	21	0	0
Lupton Mr. Nottingham	-	-	20	0	0	Robinson James, Esq. Papplewick	-	21	0	0
Lady unknown (by the hands of Mr.						Smellie John, Esq. John Buxton, and				
Hoskins)	-	-	10	0	0	John Ball Mason, gents. (the Mayor				
Morris John, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	300	0	0	and Sheriffs of Nottingham) instead				
Manvers Right Hon. Earl, Thoresby	-	-	100	0	0	of the Michaelmas feast, 1780	-	120	0	0
Middleton Right Hon. Thomas Lord,						Savile Sir George, Bart. Rufford	-	105	0	0
Wollaton	-	-	200	0	0	Sherbrooke Mrs. Oxton	-	100	0	0
Middleton Henry Lord, Wollaton	-	-	100	0	0	Smith Abel, Esq. Nottingham	-	100	0	0
Middleton Henry Lord, Wollaton	-	-	100	0	0	Sherbrooke William, Esq. Oxton	-	50	0	0
Mantagu Right Hon. Fred. Papplewick	-	-	50	0	0	Smith S. Esq. M. P. Wood Hall, Herts	-	50	0	0
Musters John, Esq. Colwick Hall	-	-	50	0	0	Simpson Hon. John, M. P. Babworth	-	50	0	0
Mundy Edw. Miller, Esq. M. P. Shipley	-	-	50	0	0	Sherwin John, Esq. Nottingham	-	50	0	0
Mellor Abijah, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	21	0	0	Shering John, Esq. Nottingham	-	42	0	0
Mason Mr. J. B. Nottingham	-	-	10	10	0	Stokes Miss Ann, Nottingham	-	21	0	0
Menteath Rev. Mr. Closeburn Hall,						Stokes Miss Millicent, Nottingham	-	21	0	0
Dumfriesshire	-	-	10	0	0	Story J. L. Esq. Nottingham	-	21	0	0
Newcastle His Grace the Duke of, Clumber	-	-	300	0	0	Strelley Mrs. Nottingham	-	20	0	0
Newark Right Honble. Lord Viscount,						Spilsbury B. Esq. Willington, Derbyshire	-	20	0	0
M. P. Holme Pierrepont	-	-	100	0	0	Statham, Martin, and Barnet, Messrs. of				
Nevill Langford, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	21	0	0	Nottingham, an acknowledgment ac-				
Newton R. Esq. Norton, Derbyshire	-	-	10	10	0	cepted by them on waving a prosecu-				
Oxton Town of (by Mrs. Sherbrooke)	-	-	100	0	0	tion	-	20	0	0
Portland his Gr. the Duke of Welbeck	-	-	200	0	0	Smellie John, Esq. Nottingham	-	10	10	0
Portland his Grace the Duke of	-	-	105	0	0	Shorney Mrs. Nottingham	-	10	10	0
Plumptre J. Esq. Fredville, Kent	-	-	100	0	0	Smith Mr. T. High-pavement, Nottingham	-	10	10	0
Pierrepont Hon. John Evelyn, Thoresby	-	-	100	0	0	Thompson Job. Esq.	-	105	0	0
Pecalties, arising from conviction of per-						Taylor Mrs. Elizabeth, Lincoln	-	50	0	0
sons, for having bought goods of						Thompson Rev. W. West Bridgford	-	10	10	0
embezzled materials (by the magis-						Unknown, through the hands of Thomas				
trates)	-	-	94	0	0	Countts, Esq. and Co.	-	6337	2	10*
Ploxton Parish of (by the Rev. D. Coke)	-	-	50	0	0	Unwin S. Esq. Sutton-in-Ashfield	-	50	0	0
Pocklington Roger, Esq. Winthorpe	-	-	21	0	0	Unknown (by D. P. Coke, Esq.)	-	20	0	0
Poole John, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	21	0	0	Vernon Rt. Hon. Lord, Nutthall Temple	-	50	0	0
			6591	0	0			14,159	12	10

\* The unknown friend that gave this large sum of money, gave an equal sum to the infirmities of Derby and Sheffield, in May, 1807, the whole being the produce of thirty thousand pounds in the three per cent. consolidated funds. For some time his name was a secret; but it afterward appeared to be the Honorable Henry Cavendish, who died at Clapham the 10th of February, 1811. He was one of the greatest philosophers and chymists that ever lived; and a most admirable eulogium of his distinguished merits, was delivered at a public meeting of the Imperial Institute at Paris, by the chevalier Cuvier on the 6th of January, 1812.



Brought forward	-	£14,159	12	10
Williams Rev. Mr. Nottingham	-	100	0	0
Williams Rev. Mr. (2d benefaction)	-	50	0	0
Wright John, Esq. Nottingham	-	50	0	0
Wright Thomas, Esq. Nottingham	-	50	0	0
Williams Mrs. Nottingham	-	50	0	0
		14,459	12	10

Brought forward	-	£14,459	12	10
Walter Rev. J. Bingham	-	21	0	0
A fine (by the Magistrates)	-	10	0	0
		14,490	12	10
Benefactions under ten pounds		294	7	9
Total		14,785	0	0

## LEGACIES.

Key Mrs. (her Executrix) Fulford	£500	0	0
Key John, Esq. Fulford	-	500	0 0
Harris Miss, Nottingham	-	100	0 0
Smellie John, Esq. Nottingham	-	100	0 0
Copley Mrs. Nottingham	-	20	0 0
Tye Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	6	6 0
Immys George, Esq. Nottingham	-	21	0 0
Needham Mr. (surgeon) Nottingham		21	0 0
Thompson Charles, Esq. Mansfield, 100% stock in the three per cents.			
Frost Mr. William, Nottingham	-	100	0 0
Coulson Mrs. Nottingham	-	20	0 0
Taylor Mr. John, Nottingham	-	50	0 0
Parnham Mrs. Mary, Nottingham	-	20	0 0
Williams Rev. Edward, Nottingham	-	100	0 0
Wolley Mr. James, Codnor, Derbyshire		60	0 0
Botham Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	20	0 0
Revill Thomas, Esq.	-	100	0 0
Chadwick James Mansfield, Esq.	-	500	0 0
Lockitt Mr. Henry, Nottingham	-	40	0 0
Leaver Mrs. Mary, Nottingham	-	50	0 0
Mellor Abijah, Esq. Nottingham	-	42	0 0
Strelley Mr. Joseph, Colwick	-	5	0 0
Welby William, Esq. Denton	-	50	0 0
Carruthers Mr. Alderman, Nottingham		100	0 0
Stacy Mr. William, Farnsfield	-	200	0 0
		2725	6 0

Brought forward	-	£2725	6	0
Warren Mrs. Elizabeth, Risley.	-	100	0	0
Jerrom Mrs. Mary, Nottingham	-	300	0	0
Pearsall Mr. John, Nottingham	-	10	0	0
Storer Mr. John, Nottingham	-	21	0	0
Elliott William, Esq. Nottingham	-	50	0	0
Morris John, Esq. Nottingham	-	100	0	0
Mettam Thomas, Esq. Nottingham	-	50	0	0
Reddish Mr. Simon, Overstone	-	20	0	0
Hall Francis, Gent. Nottingham	-	20	0	0
Caunt Mr. Alderman, Nottingham	-	50	0	0
A Lady (per Mr. Holdsworth)	-	30	0	0
Smith James, Gent. Nottingham	-	20	0	0
Hawley Mr. John, Ilkeston	-	50	0	0
Kelsall Mrs. Elizabeth, Nottingham	-	105	0	0
Dakeyne Mrs. Christian, Nottingham	-	100	0	0
Dakeyoe Mr. Robert, Nottingham	-	100	0	0
Launder Cornelius, Esq. Nottingham	-	100	0	0
Ugnall Mrs. Ann, Nottingham	-	100	0	0
Ellis Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	21	0	0
Tomlinson Rev. William, Beverley	-	100	0	0
Pocklington Mrs. Mary, Newark	-	200	0	0
Harwood Mr. William, Bilborough	-	50	0	0
Pidcock Mr. William, Nottingham	-	50	0	0
Needham Mrs. William, Nottingham	-	5	0	0
Total,		4477	6	0

## A LIST OF THE ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS, MARCH 25, 1815.

*All those marked \* are both subscribers and benefactors.*

*Arkwright Richard, Esq. Willersley Castle, Derbyshire	-	£10	10
Allen Mr. Alderman, Nottingham	-	2	2
Ashwell John, Esq. (Mayor) Nottingham	-	2	2
Allsopp Mr. Lewis, Nottingham	-	2	2
Almond George, Gent. Nottingham	-	2	2
Alliott Rev. Mr. Nottingham	-	2	2

Atkin Mr. James, Nottingham	-	£2	2
Barber, Walker, and Co. Messrs. Eastwood	-	10	10
Bolton Thomas, Esq. Ratcliff Lodge	-	5	5
Barry Barry, Esq. Rocla Veston	-	5	5
Butterley Company, Derbyshire	-	5	5
Burnell Peter Pegge, Esq. Winkburn	-	4	4
Bateman Sir Hugh, Bart. Ilam, near Ashborne	-	3	3

Beardmore Mr. Joseph, London	-	£2	2	Dinsdale Rev. Owen, Wilford	-	-	£2	2	
Brodhurst William, Esq. Mansfield	-	-	2	2	Dashwood Rev. S. F. Stanford, near Loughbro'	-	-	2	2
Bettison Jonas, Esq. Holme-Pierrepont	-	-	2	2	Dickinson Thomas Lacy, Esq. West Retford	-	-	2	2
Beresford John, Esq. Ashborne	-	-	2	2	Davy and Roberts, Messrs. Druggists, London	-	-	2	2
Blaydes Hugh, Esq. Ranby Hall	-	-	2	2	Deakin Mrs. Bagthorpe	-	-	2	2
Beecher Rev. William, Southwell	-	-	2	2	Dale Mr. James, Druggist Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Beecher Rev. John Thomas, Southwell	-	-	2	2	* Emmerton J. W. Esq. Thrumpton	-	-	3	3
Barrow Rev. Dr. Southwell	-	-	2	2	* Eyre A. H. Esq. Grove	-	-	3	3
Bristoe Rev. William, Southwell	-	-	2	2	Eyre Rev. Archdeacon, Babworth	-	-	2	2
Brown Rev. J. H. Eakring	-	-	2	2	* Edge Thomas Webb, Esq. Strelley	-	-	2	2
Brown Rev. J. H. Cotgrave	-	-	2	2	* Evans Francis, Esq. Lenton Grove	-	-	2	2
Broughton Rev. Mr. Tunstal, Salop	-	-	2	2	Elliott W. E. Esq. Gedling House	-	-	2	2
Brettle John, Esq. Thurgarton	-	-	2	2	Elliott John, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Bromley Sir Robert Howe, Bart. Stoke Hall	-	-	2	2	Elliott Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Bourne Gervas, Esq. Bramcote	-	-	2	2	Enfield Mr. Henry, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Braithwaites Messrs. Nottingham	-	-	3	3	Evans Walter, Esq. Derby	-	-	1	1
* Bolton Mr. Samuel, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Evans William, Esq. Derby	-	-	1	1
Bigsby Rev. Thomas, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Foljambe Francis, Esq. Osberton	-	-	10	0
Bardsley Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Fountayne Miss, Papplewick	-	-	5	5
Bates Mr. Alderman, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Frank Frank Admiral, M. P. Kirklington	-	-	5	5
Bott Mr. George, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Fynes Rev. Dr. Cromwell	-	-	2	2
Blatherwick Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Flamstead Rev. Dodsley, Spondon	-	-	2	2
Barwick Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Fillingham George, Esq. Syerston	-	-	2	2
Brocksopp Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Foster Rev. Robert, Sutton Bonington St.	-	-		
Brough Mr. John, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Michael's	-	-	2	2
Chesterfield Rt. Hon. Earl of, K. B. Bradby	-	-	5	5	Fisher Thos. Esq. Beaconfield, near Newark	-	-	2	2
* Carrington Rt. Hon. Lord, Wycombe Abbey	-	-	5	5	Fowler Miss, Southwell	-	-	2	2
* Clifton Sir Gervas, Bart. Clifton Grove	-	-	5	5	Foxcroft Mr. Lenton Firs	-	-	2	2
Craufurd General, Blyth	-	-	5	5	Foxcroft Mrs. C. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Chaworth John, Esq. Annesley Hall	-	-	5	5	Freeth Daniel, Gent. Castle Hill, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Coape Lieutenant Colonel, Sherwodge Lodge	-	-	3	3	Frost Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Charlesworth Rev. John, Ossington	-	-	3	3	Fellows J. M. Esq. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Canterbury his Grace the Archbishop of,	-	-			* Gisborne Rev. T. Yoxall Lodge, Staffordshire	-	-	5	5
Lambeth Palace	-	-	2	2	Girardot J. C. Esq. Allestree, near Derby	-	-	5	5
Clifton Rev. William, Clifton	-	-	2	2	* Gregory Rev. Mr. Langar	-	-	3	3
Cleaver Rev. J. C. Holme-Pierrepont	-	-	2	2	Green James, Esq. Lenton Abbey	-	-	2	2
Chamberlin Mr. Richard, Lenton	-	-	2	2	Greaves R. C. Esq. Ingleby, near Derby	-	-	2	2
Cox Humphry, Esq. South Scarle	-	-	2	2	Godfrey E. S. Esq. Newark	-	-	2	2
Coleman Mr. Nottingham	-	-	3	3	Gawthern Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Chatteris Mr. Edward, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Goodacre Mr. Standard Hill, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Collishaw John, Gent. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Grist Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Cox Mr. George Lissant, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Hayne William, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	10	10
Coldham George, Gent. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Holden Robert, Esq. Darley, near Derby	-	-	5	5
Cole, Huddlestons, and Co. Messrs. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Hall and Son, Messrs. Basford	-	-	5	5
* Dashwood C. V. Esq. Stanford Hall	-	-	5	5	Hollins, Oldknow, and Co. Messrs. Pleasley	-	-		
Donston George, Esq. Worksop	-	-	2	2	Works	-	-	5	5
Deverill Mr. William Hooton, Newton	-	-	2	2	Hayne Thomas, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	5	5
Drewry Mr. Alderman, Derby	-	-	2	2	Haddens Messrs. Nottingham	-	-	5	5

Huish Mark, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	£5	5	Mellor Charles, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	£2	2	
Holt Rev. George, Boughton	-	-	-	2	2	Markland Jonathan, Gent. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Handley W. F. Esq. Newark	-	-	-	2	2	Maltby Thomas, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Hall General, Park Hall, near Mansfield	-	-	2	2	Middlemore W. R. Esq. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	
Hall Rev. J. H. Risley	-	-	-	2	2	Melville Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Hall Thomas, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Melville Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Hart Francis, Gent. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Newcastle his Grace the Duke of, Clumber	21	0		
Hardwick Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Newcastle her Grace the Duchess of	-	-	5	5
Hooley Mr. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Need John, Esq. Mansfield Woodhouse	-	-	5	5
Howitt Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Need Nathaniel, jun. and Co. Messrs. Drug-				
Hancock John Gent. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	gists, Nottingham	-	-	5	5
Hopkinson Mr. George, Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Ncale Rev. Pendock, Tollerton	-	-	2	2
Hind Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Nightingale Peter, Esq. late of Lea Bridge				
Hopper Mr. Richard, jun. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	(by his Executors)	-	-	2	2
Holmes Rev. Mr. Normanton	-	-	-	2	2	Nunn Mr. William, London	-	-	2	2
Holmes John, Esq. Retford	-	-	-	2	2	Needham Matthew, Esq. Lenton	-	-	2	2
Hodgkinson George, Esq. Southwell	-	-	-	2	2	Naylor Mr. Standard Hill, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Jackson and Manly Messrs. druggists, Pater-						*Portland his Grace the Duke of, Welbeck	20	0		
Noster Row, London	-	-	-	2	2	Pocklington Joseph, Esq. Muskham Grange	21	0		
Jordao Rev. John Thomas, Hickling	-	-	-	2	2	Pocklington Roger, Esq. Muskham Grange	4	4		
Jamson Mr. Burton-Joyce	-	-	-	2	2	Phillips Samuel, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	5	5
Knight H. G. Esq. M. P. Laugold	-	-	-	3	3	Parkyns Lady, Ruddington	-	-	3	3
Kirkby Rev. John, Gotham	-	-	-	2	2	*Padley Robert, Esq. Burton Joyce	-	-	2	2
Kewney Mr. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Parkinson Rev. Dr. Kegworth	-	-	2	2
Killingley Mr. T. O. Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Parker Mr. John, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Lowe Wm. Drury, Esq. Locko, Derbyshire	5	5				Prentice Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Longden John, Esq. Bramcote Hills	-	-	-	3	3	Pepper Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Leaver Richard, Esq. Mansfield	-	-	-	2	2	Payne Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Lowe Robert, Esq. Southwell	-	-	-	2	2	Robinson John, Esq. Winthorpe House	-	-	2	2
Lowe Mr. J. High Field	-	-	-	2	2	Rawson Thomas Jekyll, Esq.	-	-	2	2
Lowe Mr. William, Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Ramsden Robert, Esq. Carlton in Lindrick	2	2		
Lacy Mr. Charles, Standard Hill, Nottingham	2	2				Ray Mr. West Bridgford	-	-	2	2
Launder Miss, Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Rawson W. F. Esq. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Lawson Mr. Joseph, Nottingham	-	-	-	2	2	Roe Mr. Martin, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Lawson Mr. George, Red Hill Lodge	-	-	-	2	2	Roberts Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Lawson Mr. James, Red Hill Lodge	-	-	-	2	2	Richardson Mr. W. G. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
*Middleton Right Hon. Lord, Wollaton Hall	10	10				Richardson Samuel, Esq. Derby	-	-	2	2
*Musters John, Esq. Colwick Hall	-	-	-	5	5	Rickards S. Esq. Draycot House, Derbyshire	2	2		
Mundy E. M. Esq. M. P. Shipley, Derbyshire	5	5				Stanhope Lord and Ladies, Bradby	-	-	5	5
Morris Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	-	5	5	Savile the Hon. and Rev. John Lumley, Rufford	5	5		
Maltby T. and W. B. Messrs. Nottingham	5	5				*Sherbrooke William, Esq. Oxton	-	-	5	5
Molyneux Henry Howard, Esq. M. P. Wellow	3	3				Sherbrooke Sir J. C. K. B.	-	-	5	5
Meynell Francis, Gent. Derby	-	-	-	2	2	*Smith Samuel, Esq. M. P. Wood Hall, Herts	5	5		
Moore Thomas, Esq. Lowdham	-	-	-	2	2	Story Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	5	5
Martin Rev. Samuel, Warsop	-	-	-	2	2	Story J. Bainbrigge, Esq. Woodbro' Hall	5	5		
Martin J. N. Esq. Wollaton	-	-	-	2	2	Smith William, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	5	5
Morewood Mrs. Alfreton Hall, Derbyshire	2	2				Smith George, Esq. M. P. London	-	-	3	3
Maltby Gilbert, Esq. Hoveringham	-	-	-	2	2	Stretton Mr. George, Nottingham	-	-	3	3

Smith John, Esq. M. P. London	-	-	£2	2	Thompson Mrs. West Bridgford	-	-	£2	2
Smith Mrs. Lucy, Chelsea	-	-	2	2	Trentham William, Gent. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Smith George, Esq. Wilford	-	-	2	2	Turbutt William, Esq. Ogston Hall	-	-	2	2
Sketchley Samuel, Esq. Newark	-	-	2	2	Unwin Mrs. Mansfield	-	-	2	2
Stanton Messrs. G. and C. Mansfield	-	-	2	2	*Vernon Rt. Hon. Lord, Sudbury, Derbyshire	-	-	5	5
Story Rev. Philip, Lockington	-	-	2	2	Vernon Hon. George V. Nutthall Temple	-	-	5	5
Smelt Rev. W. Gedling	-	-	2	2	Vezey Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Staunton Rev. Dr. Staunton	-	-	2	2	Warren Right Hon. Sir John Borlase, K. B.	-	-	-	-
Strutt William Esq. Derby	-	-	2	2	Stapleford Hall	-	-	5	5
Strutt Joseph, Esq. Derby	-	-	2	2	Wilmot Sir R. Bart. Chaddesden, near Derby	-	-	5	5
Strutt George Esq. Belper	-	-	2	2	Wright John, Esq. Lenton	-	-	5	5
Stubbins Nathaniel Esq. Holme-Pierrepont	-	-	2	2	Wright Ichabod, Esq. Mapperley	-	-	5	5
Sanders Rev. George, Wollaton	-	-	2	2	Wright Edmund, Esq. Nottingham	-	-	5	5
Sanday Mr. William, Holme-Pierrepont	-	-	2	2	Wakefield Messrs. Francis and S. Nottingham	-	-	5	5
Sanday Miss, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Williams George Gregory, Esq. Rempstone	-	-	3	3
Stretton Mr. William, Lenton Priory	-	-	2	2	Walker Mrs. Thomas, Berry Hill	-	-	3	3
*Smith Mr. Thomas Carpenter, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wright Samuel, Esq. Gunthorpe	-	-	3	3
Smith Mr. W. jun. High-pavement, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wright Thomas, Esq. Norwood Hall	-	-	3	3
Smith Mr. W. St. James's-street, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wright John Smith, Esq. High Sheriff, Wilford	-	-	-	-
Smith Mr. J. St. James's-street, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	House	-	-	3	3
Society of Woolcombers, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wright Mrs. Mary, Sion Hill	-	-	2	2
Society for the Prosecution of Horse Stealers, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wright Mrs. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Swann Mr. Alderman, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wright Mrs. H. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Stuart Rev. J. B. Standard Hill, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wright Miss, Long-Row, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Sykes Mr. Robert, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Webster Mr. John Sutton, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Shilton Mr. C. D. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wilson Mr. Alderman, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Simpson Messrs. Thos. and John, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wakefield Mr. Thomas, Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Severn Mr. James, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wells Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Shuttleworth Mr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wylde Rev. Dr. Nottingham	-	-	2	2
Stone Mr. John, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	Wylde William, Esq. Southwell	-	-	2	2
Sutton Mr. Charles, Nottingham	-	-	2	2	White John, Gent. Basford	-	-	2	2
Trent Navigation Company	-	-	5	5	Wood John, Gent. Mount Pleasant, near Eastwood	-	-	2	2
Twisleton I. C. Esq. Osbaston Hall, Leicestershire	-	-	3	3	Wainwright Mr. William, Nottingham	-	-	1	1
Topott John, Esq. Lamcote	-	-	2	2	York his Grace the Archbishop of, Bishop- thorpe Palace, near York	-	-	5	5
Thoroton Thomas, Esq. Flintham Hall	-	-	2	2					

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS OF PARISHES AND TOWNS.

Parish of St. Mary, Nottingham	-	£5	5	Parish of Cotgrave	-	-	£2	2	
Parish of St. Peter, Nottingham	-	-	5	5	Parish of Linby, by Miss Fountayne	-	2	2	
Parish of St. Nicholas, Nottingham	-	-	5	5	Parish of Papplewick, by Miss Fountayne	-	2	2	
Parish of Mansfield	-	-	5	5	Parish of Lenton	-	-	2	2
Parish of Basford	-	-	5	5	Parish of Watnall, by L. Rolleston, Esq.	-	2	2	
Parish of Bilborough	-	-	5	5	Parish of Wilford, by Rev. Mr. Dinsdale	-	2	2	
Parish of Southwell	-	-	4	4	Parish of Sutton-in-Ashfield	-	-	2	2
Parish of Radford	-	-	4	4	Town of Gedling	-	-	2	2
Parish of Greasley	-	-	4	4	Parish of Heanor	-	-	2	2
Parish of Bingham	-	-	2	2	Parish of Hucknall, by Rev. Mr. Nixon	-	2	2	

Parish of Colston-Basset	-	-	£2	2
Parish of Bulwell	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of Arnold	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of Snenton	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of Ruddington, by Mr. Breedon	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of Wollaton	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of Hickling	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of Beeston	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of Trowell	-	-	-	2 2
Parish of East Leak, by Mr. Woodroffe	-	-	-	2 2

Parish of Shirland, by Mr. Hopkinson	£2	2
Parish of Stapleford	-	2 2
Parish of Woodborough	-	2 2
Parish of Eastwood	-	2 2
Parish of Cropwell Butler	-	2 2
Parish of Calverton	-	2 2
Parish of Kinoulton	-	2 2
Parish of East Bridgford	-	2 2
Hamlet of Chilwell	-	2 2
Hamlet of Carlton in the Willows	-	2 2

Abstract of the whole account of the year, from Lady-day, 1814, to Lady-day, 1815.

*Receipts from the 25th of March, 1814, to the 25th of March, 1815.*

In the Treasurers' hands, March 25th, 1814	-	-	-	£605	13	1
Collected at St. Mary's church on the anniversary, after a sermon preached by the Rev. Charles Smelt, including 1 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> subsequently received from a Lady then absent	-	-	-	289	18	6
Received at the assembly on the anniversary	-	-	-	42	13	0
One year's dividend on £17,700 4 per cents	-	-	-	637	4	0
One year's dividend on £3000, 3 per cents consols	-	-	-	81	0	0
Funded Property Tax returned	-	-	-	78	6	0
One year's interest on £1000 lent to the magistrates of the town and county of the town of Nottingham, on security of the Town Rate	-	-	-	50	0	0
From the magistrates of the county of Nottingham, in reduction of the loan of £2312 7 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> on security of the County Rate	-	-	-	1000	0	0
Interest on the above £2312 7 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> from 25th of March, 1814, to the 30th of December following	-	-	-	86	18	9
Interest on the remaining £1312 7 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> the 30th of December, 1814, to the 25th of March, 1815	-	-	-	15	5	6
From the use of warm baths	-	-	-	27	12	6
From the poor's boxes, 2 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> —Sale of grains, 1 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> —Soldiers' subsistence, 19 <i>s.</i>	-	-	-	4	12	10
				2919	4	2

*Abstract of payments, from March 25th, 1814, to March 25th, 1815.*

Bread, 141 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i> —Flour, 18 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i>						
—Oatmeal, 8 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> —Salt, 6 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i>	£176	2	6			
6423 <i>lbs.</i> of butchers' meat, 212 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i>						
—Sundries, 5 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	217	16	4
211 strikes of malt, 113 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —Hops, 11 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> —Ale and porter, 7 <i>l.</i> 18. 4 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	133	10	1
1636 gallons, 2 quarts of milk, 81 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>						
8 <i>cwt.</i> 1 <i>qr.</i> 26 <i>lbs.</i> of cheese, 31 <i>l.</i> 6 <i>s.</i> —Butter, 28 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	141	11	11
159 tons, 14 <i>cwt.</i> of coal, including the getting in	-	-	-	118	7	4
72 <i>lbs.</i> of candles, lamp oil, groceries, and rice	-	-	-	48	12	11
Vegetables, garden, and seeds	-	-	-	28	8	10
1 <i>cwt.</i> 2 <i>qrs.</i> 14 <i>lbs.</i> of soap, starch and blue	8	14	2			
Wine and spirituous liquors, for patients	22	1	3			
Medicines	-	-	-	226	14	0
Lint, tow, corks, and pill boxes, 7 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —Various sorts of bottles, 19 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>						
—Skins and leaf fat, 7 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> —Vinegar for house and shop, groceries for shop, lemon juice and soda water, 11 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> —Linseed meal, 5 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> —Spirit of wine, 39 <i>l.</i> —Yellow wax and honey, 8 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> —Leeches, 14 <i>l.</i> —Splints, bougies, &c. 5 <i>l.</i> 3 <i>s.</i> 7 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	118	11	8
Stationery, advertisements, stamps, and printing annual reports	-	-	-	29	11	9
Linen, calico, flannel, and 10 coverlets, 41 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> —Straw, brushes, earthenware, soda, &c. 14 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	55	10	1
				1325	12	10

Brought over	-	-	£2919	4	2
Annual subscriptions (including arrears and new subscriptions) from the 25th of March, 1814, to the 25th of March, 1815	-	-	-	922	10 0
Interest allowed by Treasurers	-	-	-	13	13 9
In the Matron's hands	-	-	-	21	0 0
				<u>3876</u>	<u>7 11</u>

LEGACIES TO THE GENERAL INFIRMARY,  
VESTED OR CONTINGENT.

A legacy of £1000, 4 per cent. government securities, vested in the governors, by the last will of the late Edward Bennett, Esq. sugar baker, in Sheffield, and payable at the decease of his widow, who is alive.

A legacy of 1400*l.* vested in the governors, by the last will of the late Rev. Creed Turner, of Trecton, in the county of York, payable at the decease of his sister, married to Dr. Storer.

A legacy of 100*l.* to the use of the infirmary, by the last will of the late Richard Milford, Esq. in case his daughter, who is married, shall have no child who shall live to attain the age of 21 years.

JOHN STORER, M. D.  
THOMAS SMITH, M. D.  
JAMES CLARKE, M. D.

Brought over	-	-	£1325	12	10
Joiners', whitesmiths', braziers', and coopers' bills, with various articles of furniture, 27 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> --White-wash- ing, and bricklayers' work, 30 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> ---					
Glazing windows, repairing water- closets, and plumbers' bill, including expenses on account of the steam en- gine, 23 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i>	-	-	-	82	4 10
Repairing and regulating clocks, 2 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ---Water rent, 4 <i>l.</i> 4 <i>s.</i> ---Two pigs, and feeding ditto, 6 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> ---Shav- ing patients twice a week, 6 <i>l.</i> ---Car- riage of goods, &c. 3 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i>	-	-	-	23	0 6
				<u>1430</u>	<u>18 2</u>

SALARIES AND WAGES.

The Chaplain	-	-	£31	10	0
House apothecary & secretary	60	0	0		
Matron	-	-	30	0	0
Deputy receiver	-	-	5	5	0
Porter	-	-	20	4	0
Ditto, a coat, hat, jacket, &c.	5	4	10		
Nurses	-	-	34	13	0
Cook and house-maid	-	-	16	16	0
Night wakers	-	-	4	16	0
Washer-woman	-	-	1	0	6
				<u>209</u>	<u>9 4</u>

CASUAL EXPENDITURE.---Repairing gar-

den wall, making a sewer, and the sla- ters' bill for damage by high wind	-	-	24	10	6
Insurance	-	-	3	0	0
Expenses at church on anniversary	-	-	42	7	0
Expenses at assembly on anniversary	-	-	25	18	0
By purchase of 1000 <i>l.</i> 3 per cent. consols	677	10	0		
By purchase of 1300 <i>l.</i> 4 per cents.	1079	0	0		
In the treasurer's hands, March 25, 1815	362	14	11		
In the matron's hands	-	-	21	0	0
			<u>3876</u>	<u>7 11</u>	

} *Honorary Governors for life.*

General account of patients admitted and discharged since the first opening, September 19th, 1782, to March 25th, 1815.

	In.	Out.	Total.
Remainin <sup>g</sup> on the books March 25th, 1814 - - -	40	350	390
Admitted since, of which 169 were accidents - - -	324	970	1294
	364	1320	1684
Out-patients made in-patients	3	—	3
In-patients made out-patients	—	60	60
	367	1380	1747
Cured - - - -	197	794	991
Relieved - - - -	36	58	94
At their own request - - -	4	6	10
For irregularity - - - -	12	—	12
Non-attendance, (most cured) -	—	146	146
Without relief - - - -	—	—	—
Dead - - - -	13	—	13
Remain on the books, March 25th, 1815 - - -	45	373	418
	307	1377	1684
Out-patients made in-patients	—	3	3
In-patients made out-patients	60	—	60
	367	1380	1747

	In.	Out.	Total.
Patients admitted and discharged since the first opening, Sept. 19th, 1782, to March 25th, 1815 -	9922	25941	35863
Out-patients made in-patients	991	—	991
In-patients made out-patients	—	3013	3013
	10913	28954	39867
Cured - - - -	5715	21585	27300
Relieved - - - -	809	1615	2424
At their own request and for irregularity - - - -	598	422	1020
Non-attendance, (most of whom were cured) - - -	—	3863	3863
Without relief - - - -	154	105	259
Dead - - - -	579	—	579
Remain on the books March 25th, 1815 - - -	45	373	418
	7900	27963	35862
Out-patients made in-patients	—	991	991
In-patients made out-patients	3013	—	3013
	10913	28954	39867

Of this number, 4417 persons were admitted on sudden accidents, without any recommendation; and there have been, since the first opening, 185 amputations, 9 trepanned, and 55 cut for the stone.---The average number for the year has been 39 in, and 343 out-patients.

### OFFICERS.

Right Honorable Lord VERNON, of Sudbury - - - -	President for the year.
The Reverend Dr. WYLDE, and THOMAS MALTBY, Esquire	Auditors for the year.
SAMUEL SMITH, Esq. and CO. JOHN and ICHABOD WRIGHT, Esqrs. and CO. and Messrs. MOORE, MALTBY; EVANS, and MIDDLEMORE - - - -	Treasurers.
Doctor JOHN STORER - - - -	Consulting physician extraordinary for life.
Doctor WILLIAM MARSDEN, Doctor CHARLES PENNINGTON, Doctor ALEXANDER MANSON, - - - -	Physicians.
Mr. THOMAS WRIGHT, Mr. JOHN ATTENBURROW, Member of Royal College of Surgeons, and Mr. JOHN WRIGHT,	Surgeons.
The Reverend JAMES BAGG, A. B. - - - -	Chaplain.
Mr. ROBERT THOMPSON, - - - -	House surgeon, apothecary, and secretary.
Mr. CORDEN THOMPSON, - - - -	Apprentices in the Hospital.
Mr. SAMUEL ASHWELL, - - - -	Matron.
Mrs. ELIZABETH BEARDSLEY - - - -	Deputy Receiver.
Mr. SAMUEL WILKINSON - - - -	

## CORRESPONDENTS AND RECEIVERS.

For the County of <i>Derby</i> ,	-	-	-	Mr. Alderman DREWRY, Derby.
For the Hundred of <i>Newark</i> ,	-	-	-	Messrs. GODFREY and HUTTON, Bankers, Newark.
For the Hundred of <i>Bingham</i> ,	-	-	-	Rev. THOMAS BEAUMONT, of East Bridgford.
For the Hundred of <i>Broxtowe</i> ,	-	-	-	Mr. CHARLES STANTON, Mansfield.
For the Hundred of <i>Thurgarton</i> ,	-	-	-	Rev. WILLIAM BECHER, Southwell.
For the Division of <i>South Clay</i> ,	-	-	-	JOHN HOLMES, Esquire, of Retford.
Messrs. SMITH, PAYNE, and SMITHS; Messrs. ROBERTS, CURTIS, and Co.; and Sir RICHARD CARR GLYNN, and Co. Bankers, London.				

\* \* \* The Governors will be glad if such gentlemen and clergymen as approve of this undertaking would trouble themselves to inform their neighbours of the nature and utility of this hospital, and promote subscriptions to support it. Old Linen is always considered a valuable present to the charity.

## KITTY HUDSON.

We will close our account of this institution by giving the particulars of the most extraordinary case ever recorded in the medical annals, as extracted by Dr. Hugh Moises from the minutes of the hospital, and afterwards published in the Medical and Physical Journal. And Mr. Attenburrow, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Thompson, are still residing in this town as living witnesses of the truth of the case. Thinking, however that the reader would be gratified by every iota of information which could be collected on the subject, I sent for the woman herself (who is now living at Arnold in this neighbourhood) to come to my house, which she did, on the 23d of July, 1815, from whom, in the presence of several neighbours, I learnt the following particulars—She is now a hearty, communicative woman, and very pleasant in conversation.

She said she was born at Arnold on the 9th of March, 1765; and that at six years of age she was brought to her grandfather, Mr. ——— White, then sexton of St. Mary's parish Nottingham, where a girl resided, in the capacity of servant, several years older than herself, who used to say to her, "Kitty, if you will get me a mouthful of pins by such, or such a time, I will give you so much *tuffy*." Kitty used to be employed in sweeping the church several times a week, and was always very careful in picking up pins and needles, which she regularly stored in her mouth, for she received alike for both. She followed this practice, as she says herself, till she could neither eat, drink, or sleep without pins or needles in her mouth, having got out of bed many times to supply herself with them, in order to get some sleep. Indeed to such a pitch had she carried this strange habit, before the mischief was discovered, that her double teeth were worn almost to the gums by constantly chewing these little instruments of torment. At length she began to feel a constant numbness in her limbs, and a great disinclination to sleep, which, after various medical applications, was the cause of her being removed to the general hospital, where, as she says, she was the ninth patient. For the account of her extraordinary sufferings and her not less extraordinary cure, the reader is referred to the extracted minutes below.

On asking her respecting her marriage, &c. she stated that John Goddard, a youth of her native village, who had sweethearted her from a child, to use her own expressions, was an out-patient in the hospital, for a complaint in his head, of which he lost an eye, when she was an in-patient, who used to cheer her by saying he would marry her if she lost all her limbs, providing her life was



spared. And she still says, she believes that it was the cheering of this young man, and her attachment to him, which enabled her to bear up against her sufferings. In about six months after her cure she was married to this faithful lover, by whom she has had *nineteen* children, eighteen of which lived to be christened, and she had three of them living at one time, though only one now remains, a girl of seventeen years of age; and she has been blind near two years, but, at the time this account was given, had received a little sight of one eye. Kitty says, from the loss of both her breasts, and a variety of other causes, the doctors used to tell her she would never rear a child; but she says God has enabled her to falsify their predictions. On being asked if she at any time felt any inconvenience from her past sufferings, she replied, nothing material, except that a pin or needle still remained in one of her left ribs, which, when she was heavy with child gave her great pain, and now hurts her sometimes. Her husband died in the present year, for whose memory she expresses the utmost attachment. And it is not a little remarkable, that somewhat less than four years ago, she was in our hospital with a broken leg, when she miscarried of her last child. She travelled as the Arnold post from that village to this town about four years, sometime ago.

*The remarkable case of Kitty Hudson, of Nottingham, who voided from different parts of her body many needles, pins, and pieces of bones, in a letter from Dr. Hugh Moises to Dr. Bradley. Extracted from the Medical and Physical Journal, Vol. VII.*

DEAR SIR—In giving the following case, I faithfully transcribe the minutes taken by the physicians and surgeons of the General Hospital, Nottingham, under whose immediate care the patient (Kitty Hudson) was received at her different admissions. As at some periods of her disease, frequent consultations were held, the minutes were more carefully made and preserved at those periods; while at others, when the symptoms were considered as less urgent, little, or very unsatisfactory, notice is taken of them. To this may be added, the unfortunate loss of one of the books, to which I was in consequence excluded a reference at the time I collected the case in my place-book.

I had formerly mentioned the outlines of the case to many professional men, who held deserved rank in the medical world; and of whom I might say, with Cicero, that they were

*Interiores et reconditæ literæ.*

I, however, found that the tide of scepticism might hurry me into endless controversy, without a prospect of any practical advantage being derived from the discussion. With these impressions I hesitated to make the case public, (as it was my intention to have done at the Lyceum Medicum, in 1792,) well knowing that

*Philosophi ætatem in litibus conterunt.*

In respect to the facts of this remarkable case, Dr. Storer, Mr. Wright, Mr. Bigsby, Mr. Attenburrow, Mr. Thompson, and every other professional man in the town of Nottingham, who were resident there at the time, are in full possession of, and are at liberty to confirm or contradict any part of my statement, according as I may be found correct or otherwise. I believe it was the intention of Doctor Snowden White, then senior physician to the Hospital, to have published it; but his premature death from phthisis hæmoptoïca, I suppose, prevented his carrying his intention into execution.\* It has, therefore, hitherto been but lamely communicated to a few practitioners; nor can I detail it in the manner I could wish, for reasons already given. The preserved facts of the case are before you, and for their being facts, I might pledge myself to you in the language of Terence,

*Liquet mihi dejerare.*

16th November, 1801.

I have honor to be, &c.

HUGH MOISES, M. D.

\* The unfortunate sufferer told the author of the History of Nottingham at his interview with her, that Dr. White afterwards told her he would publish the account for her benefit.

Kitty Hudson, a single woman, was admitted into the General Hospital, Nottingham, on the 4th of August 1783, for an inflammatory affection of the right arm; her usual occupation had been that of sweeping the pews and aisles of a church.---On inspection of the arm two needles were discovered in the skin, a little above the dorsal side of the wrist. They lay in a transverse direction, and were readily extracted by pushing the points through the skin and laying hold of them with a pair of forceps. Upon a more minute examination, some more needles were felt about three inches higher up the fore arm, but farther back than the others, and more over the flexor muscles; these lay longitudinally, and appeared to have their heads downwards. These needles were extracted as before, a small puncture with a lancet having been previously made. (Of the number of the last-mentioned needles I find no mention.)

Aug. 6th. Another needle is felt very plainly a little below the former place.

7. The nurse, in attempting to extract one from her leg, has broken it, and left part of it in. A large needle has been taken away from her foot, which was laying across her instep, and among the tendons.

Oct. 11 A very large darning needle was this day extracted from her right breast, seemingly buried within a part of the gland; thinks she feels another needle very deep seated under the gland in the middle of the breast; complained of great pain in the breast after the removal of the needle, which in about an hour afterwards became so excessive as to throw her into convulsions.

Nov. 1st. The convulsions have continued at periods till now; the needle still appearing to lie very deep within the breast; and about three days ago her jaws became locked; very weak and low; pulse small and weak; made an incision quite through the breast, and extracted a large needle which adhered to the tendinous fascia covering the pectoral muscle; afterwards brought the lips of the wound together by adhesive plaisters. (From this last report I find none other until)

Jan. 12th, 1784. Has now very severe pains in the breast; apply Goulard's fomentation sprinkled with laudanum.

15th. Took her purging medicine last night, which had no effect; fomentation increased the pain; omit it. Touch the fungous ulcers with the weak solution of lunar caustic.

Feb. 3d. Passed a pin yesterday by urine, which was not coated, or particularly corroded: and this day, with the same excretion, passed a needle. Had much pain in the sphiocter vesicæ before and during the passage, and the urine bloody, though less so to-day.

5th. Passed another needle yesterday by urine; is faint and low.

11th. The breast healing fast, less pain, and the needle not easily distinguishable; has had pain in the throat and vomiting, which brought up blood; feels still an obstruction in swallowing.

12th. Brought up a needle by vomiting.

14th. Had a needle extracted from her breast.

16th. Complains of pain in the lower part of the thorax, betwixt the ribs, but nothing to be felt.

19th. Pain now in her breast, as when a needle was there before, that between the ribs gone off.

26th. Two days ago the whole of the breast began to be inflamed, and the inflammation continues.

March 3d. Inflammation gone off.

8th. Still complains of pain deep seated in her breast, which prevents her resting.

19th. The needle in the breast to be extracted.

22d. It passed into the thorax during the operation; part of the gland, which was schirrous, was removed.

26th. No pain from the needle; breathing easy.

29th. Felt the needle in her stomach, and threw up a considerable quantity of congealed blood.

April 5th. Has had no pain from the needle since last report; breast healing.

8th. Continues mending; no symptom of any more pins or needles.

26th. Quite well; dismissed cured.

May 7. Is re-admitted; about a week since was taken with a pain, a pricking sensation at the stomach, and vomited a matter which consisted of a solution of a pin similar to what she passed by urine, with some streaks of blood, attended with external inflammation, with two small ulcers, which are now much better.

10th. Last night took tinct. theb. gt. lxxx. Procured no rest; complains of great pain in the stomach, and thinks she feels two or three pins or needles, and that they change their position.

11th. Brought up three pins, two corroded, one not much so.

17th. Plaster taken off; pain was relieved by it; but the part sore and a little ulcerated; stomach yet sore.

21st. Yesterday threw up matter similar to what came from her stomach when the pins were there; complains of much pain in her stomach, but no pricking feel, except when pressed; feels as if matter discharged from the part into the stomach; jaw locked, and a little subsultus tendinum. Ordered milk, whey, butter-milk and water, and weak broths frequently for diet.

22d. Had very little rest during the night; early in the morning got up and took three tea-spoons full of tinct. theb. without any sensible effect; had frequent spasms in the course of the day; went into the warm bath this evening; was very faint and much convulsed on coming out, afterwards considerably better: took a bolus about eight o'clock.

23d. Has had a tolerable night's rest; thinks herself much easier; no relaxation of the jaw; has much pain and subsultus tendinum.

24th. Somewhat freer from pain this morning; has had several stools from the bolus; went into the warm bath, and was much better after it; has taken the tinct. theb. three times.

25th. Has brought up a considerable quantity of matter since last night; much relieved from pain, but no relaxation of jaw.

29th. Feels more pain at her stomach, as if there were pins and needles; sickness and vomiting; jaw looser.

June 2d. Yesterday brought up a pin; still feels pain and pricking at her stomach; costive.

3d. Brought up four pins together, and one singly before these.---Drink warm gum water.

6th. Feels no pain but soreness.

9th. Complains of a pain in left breast: apply linen dipped in Goulard's water, and sprinkled with laudanum.---Stomach much swelled and hard.

17th. Much pain in her stomach; two pins or needles to be felt on each side of her stomach. One needle taken out this day.

29th. Dismissed relieved.

Aug. 11. Re-admitted. On Friday last threw up a pin from her stomach; since easier there, but had a pin in right breast. One needle taken out from the surface, but has continued pain from one deep seated in the same breast, with spasms, and jaw stiff. Warm bath this evening.

16th. Spasms have been severe, and has taken the laudanum to the amount of 500 drops. No pain except in breast. Warm bath whenever the spasm or pain increases.

20th. Great pain in breast, and in jaw, which was locked; general convulsions and violent.

22d. Took a bolus on Friday, went into the warm bath, and was much relieved; repeated bolus twice on Saturday, and one last night, using the warm bath. A splinter came away from the inner angle of the lower jaw on the right side; body open and jaw quite relaxed; no spasm, but violent pain in the breast.

26th. For several days has complained of great pain in her breast; and describes it to be as if several pins were lodged in the mamma and pectoral muscle, and lying between the two ribs.

Aug. 30th. The right mamma was extirpated this day, in the middle of which a needle was found closely impacted; an hæmorrhage taking place in the evening, the dressings were removed, and a small artery was taken up; a pin was found in the dressings.

Sept. 4th. Complained of pain; the dressings were partially removed; another pin was sticking to the dressings; four other pins were also discovered in the wound, which were removed without difficulty. One of the pins having lost the head, her perception was so accurate as to distinguish it before removing the dressings.

9th. On removing the dressings two pins were found adhering to them. She rested well, and has lost every symptom of spasm or pain, except what is in consequence of the operation.

7th. Two more pins were found lodging on the dressings this day, together with a plumb stone which she swallowed two days ago. No fever, but her stomach rejects what ever medicine is offered.\*

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\* This took place after her second breast was taken off, while the wound was still open, as she informed the author.

8th. The food taken, came away from the wound in the form of poultice.

9th. Complains of slight degree of pain in different parts of the breast. The wound is in a healing state.

10th. No material alteration.

11th. The food swallowed still continues to work out at the wound, issuing from a sinus very small, and covered with granulations acting as a valve to it. Ordered to eat no animal food, or dry bread, but live only on milk diet in different forms, with sago and rice. Port wine half-a-pint per diem.

12th. Complains of much pain, which she thinks is owing to a piece of bone working its way along the sinus to make its exit at the wound. The piece of bone she imagines is about half an inch long, and rather thick.

13th. This morning it came away exactly as she had described it, and appears to be part of one of the ribs; she still complains of much pain, and thinks there is another piece of bone making its way to come out. This evening the other piece of bone came away, covered as she had described it; and appears to be the end of one of the ribs, covered with a vast number of insects of the grub kind.

14th. A great number of grubs came away with the dressings this day.

15th. A small piece of bone came away with the dressings; complains of much pain, as if there were several more pieces to come away.

16th. This morning another piece of bone came away, rather larger than that of yesterday.

17th. Complains of much pain and prickings in the part; food passes through the sinus.

18th. Two pieces of bone came away covered with a cartilaginous substance; from the kind of pain she feels, thinks there is another large piece of bone that will soon come away.

19th. This morning the large piece of bone came away as she had described it; is much easier; almost every thing she eats or drinks still escapes through the sinus.

20th. The wound looks well; no food has passed the sinus to-day.

21st. This morning four small pieces of bone came away, and there was also a considerable quantity of food on the dressings; not so faint and low.

22d. Five small pieces of bone and a quantity of food came away with the dressings.

23d. She is much easier to-day, and very little food has passed through the sinus.

24th. Passed no food through the sinus since yesterday, and takes it freely; thinks the rib, from which the exfoliation has taken place, is now detached from the back bone.

27th. Does not take food so easily; it is heavy at her stomach, and occasions nausea, but does not pass through the sinus; the rib feels to her as though it were broken into several pieces. One piece of carious bone came away this day.

30th. One piece of bone came away on the 28th; could take no food; was ordered nutritive clysters of milk and broth. Yesterday two bones came away, portions of rib! feels as if more were lodged at the œsophagus; feels as if a gathering was coming on lower on the ribs; chilliness and shivering at times; clyster came up in part at her mouth, and gave her pain; lessen the quantity, and repeat them. Three pieces of carious rib came away this morning.

Oct. 1st. This morning *thirty-four* pieces of bone were working their way through the sinus. Took a small quantity of bread and wine last night, which greatly refreshed her; eat some bread and milk for supper with some degree of appetite.

2d. This morning was considerably better; was got up, and walking about the ward in good spirits. After the wound was dressed, was seized with spasmodic affection of the lungs, almost producing suffocation, which was succeeded by rigor and fainting. No bone or aliment came away with the dressings. In the afternoon and evening was much better.

3d. Continues nearly the same as yesterday.

4th. The food she takes passes off by stool soon after she has taken it; ordered to eat rice gruel as her principal diet; take from 20 to 80 drops of laudanum half an hour before she eats any food.

5th. Food continues to pass undigested, almost as soon as taken. The laudanum has not had any sensible effect.

6th. This morning a portion of bone, about three quarters of an inch in length, of a curved form with points, was discharged by stool, since which she has been free from pain, and breathing easier.

7th. Took 80 drops of tinct. theb. without the least effect ; complains of frequent rigors, succeeded by heat, several times a day.

8th. Last night and this morning has taken 90 and 100 drops of tinct. theb. without any effect whatever. Can get but little rest, from a universal soreness of the right side, which she describes as if her ribs were falling out of their sockets.

12th. Had nothing come away from sore till to-day, a few pieces of bone, (no number specified in my minutes) ; has had cough, and expectorated dark foetid matter, but not to-day ; complains of great pain in the stomach, as if a large piece of bone was there ; food passes off quick as before.

14th. This morning brought up a large piece of bone ; complains of great soreness of the œsophagus ; food continues to pass unaltered, and almost immediately after being swallowed.

19th. Feels now as if pins, or a piece of bone, were penetrating the bladder, or the right side near the neck of the bladder.

21st. This day passed a piece of bone by urine.

25th. On Saturday and yesterday she threw up blood, liquid, not congealed, she thinks about a tea-cup full.—Complains of pain in her stomach, but not as if any extraneous substance was lodged there.

28th. Constant nausea and vomiting on taking food ; feels something thick and long, which seems to come to her throat, afterwards returns to the stomach, and lies heavy on the left side of her stomach.

Nov. 1st. Symptoms as before, only yesterday morning, a red spot or two on the right breast, very sore and inflamed ; has now the appearance of an eschar, and covers the upper part of the breast ; no sensation as of pins or needles, or any irritating substance in the breast ; frequent chilliness and heat.

9th. Breast healing on the outside, but yet feels pain internally, as though there was bones in it ; takes food better, and it stays with her.

11th. Complains greatly of the heart-burn ; a thin discoloured matter discharges from an ulcer in the breast.

15th. Felt as if a bone rose from her stomach ; she thinks the bones came from the left breast ; which is now healed excepting a small ulcer.

18th. Still complains of heart-burn. Breast almost healed. Brought up two small bones yesterday.

20th. Complains of rib on the left side, under the breast, feeling as if it was splintered ; heart-burn continues.

23d. Had pain in her jaw, and stiffness ; went into the warm bath, which relieved her.

Dec. 1. Breast very painful ; no cardialgia ; ulcer on the breast ; food stays ; body open.

8th. For the last seven days has had almost constant ichorous discharge from the breast, with the usual erysipelatous appearance, attended sometimes with great sickness.

9th. Yesterday diarrhœa came on with discharge of matter.

17th. Purging ceased ; still complains of much pain in the breast, and acid on the stomach.

23d. Complains of much pain in her arm and shoulder.

26th. Complains of pain in her breast, but much easier since the application of the blister. Dismissed cured.

March 8th, 1785. On re-admission she complains of great pain in her left eye, that she describes as proceeding from her breast on that side. The eye-lid much swollen and inflamed, and one part of it has put on the appearance of eschar, that has been observed in other parts of the body to terminate in excoriation.

11th. The right eye is now in the same state as the other, and equally painful.

14th. A considerable quantity of blood was taken by the leeches. The swelling and inflammation is nearly gone.

21st. She has complained of pains in the right side for several days, extending along the course of the right ureter, and this morning says it has stopped the discharge of the urine. On examination, a piece of bone was found lodged in the upper part of the vagina, on the right side of the os uteri, and was extracted.

30th. To this time the symptoms have remained much the same, and five pieces of bone have been extracted at different times, since the 21st instant. N. B. One of the pieces was found making its passage into the vagina, at the part above mentioned, and after extraction the aperture was large enough to admit the point of a finger.

(From this report I do not find any minute until)

Oct. 18th. Dismissed, cured.

Jan. 3d. Re-admitted; fell down stairs; head and side much bruised; ordered to have the head shaved about the part affected, and covered with empl. neutrale.

Feb. 3. Extracted four bones from the vagina, the whole about an inch long, to appearance exfoliations of the ribs. Complains of great pains in the side, as if more bones were making their way downwards. Cutaneous ulcerations of the legs.

4th. Extracted three bones laying across, and considerably farther within the vagina. The last bone seemed to be retained about half its length, within the sinus, from which they are supposed to make their exit at the lower part between the os uteri and rectum. Great pains of side and stomach; alternative chills and flushing; tongue white and furred: no appetite.

17th. After making water complains of lacerating pain of the right side, as if pieces of bone were still moving downwards to the vagina, and having alternate symptoms of pyrexia, sickness, pain at the stomach, &c. with hardness and swelling externally, where she supposes another needle to be deep seated; she thinks she can fully distinguish its form and points. Several pieces of bone of unequal sizes, some one inch in length, and half an inch in breadth, (about twelve in number) in their appearance like a divided portion of rib, putrid, blackish, and covered with offensive matter, some of them partially remaining within the sinus, betwixt the rectum and uterus, others loose within the vagina, have been extracted at different times since the 4th.

Upon examining the matter brought up by vomiting, some small insects were observed in the mass, which was of a darkish colour, very low and weak.

18th. Still complains of violent pain, as if more bones were passing. Extracted three pieces, within the middle of one portion (to appearance rib) of about a quarter of an inch in length and half an inch in breadth, a large pin was found running longitudinally through part of its substance, and firmly impacted. She thinks more bones are working downwards the same way.

19th. Extracted a very small needle from the fore part of the leg, near the outer angle; and from the deep-seated pain near the same part, she fancied a pin is lodged. The erysipelatous ulceration, which affected the greatest part of the leg, has entirely gone off.

20th. Have extracted another portion of bone, nearly one inch in length and half an inch broad, from out of the vagina, having two pins running parallel to each other, in the same manner as in that of the report of the 18th.—Feels more bone. The former symptoms still continue; ancles œdematous at night; cannot sleep for pain, or retain any solid food whatever.

25th. Complains of very lacerating, pricking pain all last night. Have removed a portion of bone, having a pin running through its substance longitudinally; and another portion three-quarters of an inch in length and half an inch in breadth, with a pin running transversely through it, forming a right angle. Had a stool, which was streaked with blood; a continued discharge of pus, black and fœtid, from the vagina; still complains of pain in the side, stomach, &c. with sickness as before.

March 3d. Removed two narrow portions of bone, about one inch in length and three-quarters an inch in breadth; one portion having two pins impacted longitudinally, the other only one. Thinks the whole of the loosened bones from the ribs are discharged, as she is free from lacerating pains; other symptoms continue; gets little or no sleep.

5th. Complains of pain in the bowels, as if a bone was passing through them; stools very black; several of them in a day, with grubs, the same as in the matter vomited before. The stools ordered to be saved for examination.

8th. Upon examination the stools were found very black, and a pin was discovered at the bottom of the vessel, discoloured, and seemingly in part dissolved by a menstruum.

10th. Shortness of breath when lying; the legs, thighs, and skin of the breast œdematous; great distention and hardness of the stomach and abdomen; has passed no urine these three days.

14th. Feels very great fulness with load at the stomach; thinks no urine is secreted into the bladder; has not made water these three days, nor has any inclination; has chilly fits succeeded by heat two or three times a day; has stools daily, of a dark colour.

18th. Œdema, and tightness about præcordia not so considerable ; complains of great pain in the bladder, especially during the excretion of urine, which is now more frequent ; pain of the right leg from a pin.

22d. Has complained for three days past of pain in her bowels, with purging to the extent of nine, ten, or eleven stools a day, with great pain in making water. The urine deposits a copious earthy sediment, mixed with mucus of a greyish cast.

24th. Purging continues ; makes very little water, and then with great pain ; in the night of the 22d had a very strong convulsion fit, which threw her out of bed, and bruised her very much ; has had frequent vomitings, as before ; complains of great pains in the bones of the sacrum and loins ; the stomach not so much swelled or hard.

April 20th. Violent pain in her bowels with continual purging ; has discharged two pins with some fragments of bone by stool ; pain as usual in her right side.

21st. Extracted some portions of bone (no number mentioned) from the sinæ in the vagina, through one of which a pin was driven.

May 1st. Great pain in her right breast, pricking as if several pins were buried deep ; the glandular parts enlarged and hard ; can feel two or three seemingly buried in the middle of these indurated glands ; takes six or seven tea spoons full of tinct. theb. two or three times a day without any effect either in producing sleep or mitigating pain ; had several convulsion fits this night, which were only relieved by large doses of opium. (N. B. Each tea spoonful held 100 drops.)

4th. Pain this evening intolerable in her breast ; took at eleven in the morning, *eleven tea spoons full of tinct thebaica*, and this morning *twelve*, which have not yet (eight o'clock) either alleviated the pain or produced any effect, excepting exciting nausea.

(From this day we find no report until)

June 12th. Dismissed, cured.

July 26th, 1792. I have this day been credibly informed by a neighbour and relation of Kitty Hudson, that she is married, has two fine children, and enjoys better health than for several years past.

At present I shall make no comment on the case ; I feel it, however, a duty I owe to myself, (and to anticipate the attack of *puny* criticism) that I should here observe, that the language of the case throughout, is strictly that of the minutes preserved in the Case Books of the hospital, as taken thence by myself upwards of ten years ago.

HUGH MOISES, M. D.

When the reader reflects, that nearly *thirty-six thousand* of his suffering fellow mortals, either as *in* or *out*-patients, have been entered on the books of this hospital within the space of thirty-three years ; and that upwards of twenty-seven thousand of that number have been restored, in a state of convalescency, to the fond arms of a husband, a wife, a child, a parent, or a friend, he will rather approve of, than censure the author's conduct in giving so minute a detail of an institution which dispenses so many benefits around. With what pleasure and inquiry will those pages be looked over, which contain the names of the benefactors, donors, and subscribers ; and with what rapture will many hereafter point to this or that name, and exclaim to the conversing friend, "such an one, whose name you there behold, and who ennobled human nature by being charitable to the poor and distressed, was a relation, or an ancestor of mine !" The physicians and surgeons too merit our highest commendation and praise, for devoting their time and exercising their talents in alleviating the sufferings of those who are daily falling victims to accident and disease. The life of man, like the earth's vast surface, is replete with flaws and irregularities ; and the question will not bear disputing, whether he is the most commendable who seeks to remove the asperities, and smooth the rugged passage ; or he whose conduct tends to make its irregularities still more

conspicuous and troublesome, by punishing misguided mortals for errors, the commission of which they had but half the power to avoid; or which, under other circumstances, they would most cautiously have shunned.

The friends of this excellent institution, and the public at large, will excuse me for observing, that there is one *rule* in the interior management of the establishment which is very liable to be abused, viz. that which excludes a patient *for ever*, for irregularity of conduct. The language and behaviour of a captious and an over-bearing matron may so far irritate the mind of a patient (sickness always contributing to mental disquietude) as to produce words, which wounded pride and an ignorant consequence of office may construe into *insolence*; and, thus an unguarded expression, flowing from an independency of soul, may be the cause of very great misery to, and perhaps the death of a useful member of society.—It requires great circumspection and impartiality of conduct in the house visitors to guard against this evil.

### GENERAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The foundation of this extensive and well-constructed public building was laid on the 31st of May, 1810, and it was opened for the admission of its unfortunate tenantry on the 12th of February, 1812. It is situate on the declivity of a hill in the parish of Snenton, facing the Carlton road, and a few hundred paces without the boundaries of Nottingham liberties.

The gentlemen who generously took upon themselves the general management of the infirmary, very early saw the necessity of an asylum for the wandering, half lost, and sometimes wholly neglected maniacs—they contributed very much, in their collective as well as individual capacities towards the accomplishment of an object so desirable; and, till 1809, they regularly annexed a statement of the funds designed for its erection to the annual report of the state of the General Hospital, at which time the *asylum fund* was converted into a separate establishment. These humane and praise-worthy gentlemen, could not see their fellow creatures, clothed in rags, or half naked, when deprived of their reason, parading the streets, the sport of coxcombs and thoughtless boys, without being painfully struck with the sight; and they endeavoured to provide a remedy for the evil.—As man is the noblest work of God; and as his mental powers are given to him, as the grand palladium of moral happiness, the restoring *one* to the enjoyment of the faculties of ratiocination must be paying a tribute of gratitude to the Deity, and conferring a benefit on society, independently of performing a duty to the sufferer as a fellow man. Besides, the life of every passenger lies in the hands of the wandering maniac—or, if only a wound be inflicted by him, to whom can the injured person apply for redress? he may procure the imprisonment of the offender; and what then! the sympathizing pity the misguided offender, while the only recompence the other receives, is the painful reflection, that his own misfortune has added to the misery of another, *whose loss of reason was his only crime*. To which may be added, when men labouring under this dreadful malady, fall into the hands of the keepers of workhouses (which is uniformly the case when asylums are not to be had) they generally become worse, rather than better—**TO RESTORE INTELLIGENCE TO THE HUMAN MIND, INTELLIGENCE AND HUMANITY ARE REQUIRED.**



The following short article, which appeared as an advertisement in the Nottingham newspapers, will give the reader an insight into the nature of the institution :—

In pursuance of an act of parliament passed in the 48th year of his present majesty, intituled “an act for the better “care and maintenance of lunatics, being paupers or criminals in England;” we do hereby give notice, that the General Lunatic Asylum, near Nottingham, has been declared to be completed, and in a state fit for the reception of lunatics, and other insane persons; and that the same will be accordingly opened for that purpose, on Wednesday the 12th day of February next, and (on account of the *fast-day*) not on the 5th as before advertised. And for the information of overseers of the poor, notice is also given, that if any lunatic, or dangerous idiot, be chargeable to any parish within the county of Nottingham, or the county of the town of Nottingham, the overseers of the poor of every such parish, are by the said act required to give information of every such insane person, to a justice of the peace acting in and for that county wherein the parish to which such pauper belongs is situated, on which occasion the justice will make such orders concerning every such pauper as the law directs. And if any overseer of the poor shall wilfully delay or neglect to give information as above mentioned, he is by the same act of parliament rendered liable to the forfeiture and payment of ten pounds.

N. B. If the patient be not a pauper, printed forms (necessary to be obtained for admission) may be had of Edward Smith Godfrey, Esq. treasurer, Newark; or of the director at the asylum. Dated the 6th day of January, 1812.

EDWARD SMITH GODFREY, *Clerk of the peace for the county of Nottingham.*

GEORGE COLDHAM, - - *Clerk of the peace for the town and county of the town of Nottingham.*

THOMAS MORRIS, - - *Secretary to the voluntary subscribers.*

The reader will have observed from the above, that there are three parties to this institution, viz. the *voluntary subscribers*, the *town of Nottingham*, and the *county of Nottingham*. The property of the institution is divided into twelve shares or parts, as are also its expenses and connective presentation; *seven* of which parts or shares belong to the voluntary subscribers, *four* to the county of Nottingham, and *one* to the county of the town of Nottingham.

*A report from the committee, appointed to superintend the erection of the General Lunatic Asylum, near Nottingham, delivered at the first anniversary meeting of the Governors, held at the Shire-hall, in Nottingham, on the 10th day of October, 1811, his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, President, in the chair :—*

MY LORD DUKE,

The committee appointed to superintend the erection of the General Lunatic Asylum, near Nottingham, have agreed upon the following report.

Your committee have endeavoured to discharge their duty, by conforming without deviation to the working drawings approved at a general meeting, and by exerting their utmost circumspection to prevent any unnecessary expenditure; your committee however, have been compelled by circumstances, not within their control, to exceed the sum which was originally supposed to have been adequate for the completion of the buildings. This increase has not arisen from any inattention, or error in the part of the surveyors, but from the unforeseen inequality of the rock upon which the foundations of the walls have been laid, which has rendered the removal of the ground unavoidable, and has added one story beneath the basement of the north-east wing, which however has afforded increased accommodation to the establishment.

It is also stated by your committee that the fitting-up and furnishing, for which no estimate could have been made at the commencement of the undertaking, are likely to impose upon the funds of the institution, a demand much beyond what was generally expected, so that the voluntary subscribers will require from the public bounty, a very considerable sum, for the performance of their engagements with the two counties.

Your committee present the following abstract of the accounts, and beg leave to refer those governors, who feel desirous of inspecting the particulars, to the secretary at the General Hospital.

Work and labour of different kinds, partly executed by contract, and partly by measurement and valuation, according to the original plans and estimates	£	s.	d.
	11783	6	1
Extra work and labour in the subbasement, drains, &c. measured and valued	£1352	13	
Extra earth, and rock digging and cutting in the subbasement, yards, courts, and foundations, by measurement, valuation, and daily labour		963	19
Amount of the two preceding charges		2316	12 0
Fitting-up and furnishing, partly ascertained and partly estimated		1705	0 0
Furniture and contingencies, not included in the above charge, together with the surveyors' fees, estimated at		1760	0 0
Amount of the expense for completing, fitting-up, and furnishing the asylum with the courts, gardens, and contingencies as above specified		17564	18 1
The lodge and stable		500	0 0
The purchase of the land, planting trees, and setting down hurdles		1755	0 0
Total amount of expenditure		19819	18 1

Without running through every minutia of this account, suffice it to say, that there was a deficiency of £4031 18s. of which sum the subscribers had to raise by further contributions £1673 14s. 2d.—The report then proceeds :—

In submitting this statement, your committee feel no doubt in respect of the means of supplying the deficiency, they entertain a well grounded confidence in the good will of the public towards a charitable institution, which in this county has never been solicited in vain, when a proper claim to it has been made out. The report concludes in the following words—Your committee, in putting a period to this report, beg leave to approach your grace, and this assembly, in the language of congratulation, that their labours are thus brought to a close, by the completion of an object in itself so important, and which has well deserved the attention, so long and earnestly bestowed upon it. The general outline of the interior constitution and proper classification of patients in a public establishment of this nature, which was delivered in this place, and to a similar assembly, three years ago, has from a conviction of its correctness been uniformly kept in view, both in the construction of the public building, and in every other measure which has been adopted; and your committee venture to express a confident hope, that the expectations then held out to the public, are now in a fair way of being realized.

The collections annually made in St. Mary's church and the assembly rooms, at the hospital anniversaries, are now divided between the two institutions, that is, those of one year are appropriated to the General Hospital, and the succeeding one to the General Lunatic Asylum.

Doctor CHARLES PENNINGTON, *Physician to the Institution.*

Mr. HENRY OLDKNOW, - - - *Surgeon.*

Mr. THOMAS MORRIS, - - - *House Director and Secretary.*

Mrs. ANN MORRIS, - - - *Matron.*

## OTHER CHARITIES AND BENEFACTIONS.

The most important and distinguishable subject under this head, is the benefaction of *Sir Thomas White*, which is further distinguished by the appellation of the *Coventry-money*. This great philanthropist was an eminent merchant in the city of London, and belonged to the company of Merchant Tailors; and was Lord Mayor in the year 1553, the first of bloody Mary's reign.

In 1542, Sir Thomas placed fourteen hundred pounds in the hands of the Mayor and Corporation of the city of Coventry, to be laid out in the purchase of an estate, the rent whereof to be applied

for ever to charitable purposes ; and the Corporation on the 19th of July in the same year, bought as much of the dissolved priory lands at that place of Henry the Eighth, as cost them £1378 10s. 6d. which, a few years after, was valued at £70 a year. And on the 6th of July, 1551, an indenture was executed between the Mayor, &c. on the one part, and the master and wardens of the Merchant Tailor's company in London on the other part, which stated in what manner the rent of the said estate should be appropriated. During the remaining part of Sir Thomas' life, the Corporation of Coventry were to appropriate the whole proceeds of the estate to the re-edifying the city, in some degree, which was then in a very decayed state ; and during the next thirty-one years after his death, which happened in 1566,\* they were to dispose of forty pounds a year by way of loan out of such proceeds, to certain young men of *good name and thrift*, during various periods of from one to nine years, who had served apprenticeships in the city. The indenture goes on to state, that the said Mayor shall, in the second year next ensuing the term of thirty-one years aforesaid, deliver or cause to be delivered the sum of forty pounds to the Corporation of Northampton, to be by them immediately delivered, by equal portions, to four young men, inhabitants of the said town, to have the occupation of the same for the term of nine years, on finding proper security for the re-payment of the same. The third year Leicester, the fourth year Nottingham, and the fifth year Warwick were to receive the same sums, to be disposed of in like manner ; then the same to be disposed of to the said five cities and town alternately for ever.—The indenture further states, that the money shall be delivered without charge, and enjoyed during the time without interest ; that the four towns shall give security to the Corporation of Coventry, for the punctual delivery of the money ; and that the money so lent shall be repaid within one month after the nine years are expired, or within one month after the death of any person to whom it has been lent.†

The history of the “ Benefactions and Charities” of Coventry then goes to state, that “ according to the tenor of this indenture, £70 per annum out of this charitable benefaction was disposed of near 130 years ; and this city quietly enjoyed the surplus of the said estate, as their own right

\* Pennant, in his History of London, informs us, that Sir Thomas White was born at Woodstock, and that he died in 1566, at the age of seventy-two. The following document is the last production of his pen, the original of which is kept among the archives in the tower of St. John's college, Oxford, and a transcript of it, with a *fac-simile* of the author's hand-writing, is preserved in a farm-house at Fafeld, Berks, formerly the mansion of Sir Thomas. It was first printed in the Gentleman's Magazine in 1794, and considered a great rarity.

“ To Mr. President, the Fellows, and Scholars of St. John's, Oxon.

“ Mr. President, with the Fellows and Scholars,

“ I have me recommended unto you even from the bottome of my hearte, desyringe the Holy Ghost maye be amongste you untill the ende of the worlde, and desyringe Almightye God that everye one of you maye love one another as brethren ; and I shall desyre you all to applye your learninge : and soe doinge God shall give you his blessinge, both in this worlde and the worlde to come. And furthermore, if any variance or strife does arise amonge you, I shall desyre you, for God's love, to pacify it as much as you maye ; that doinge, I put noe doubt but God will blesse everye one of you ; and this shall be the last letter that ever I shall sende unto you, and therefore I shall desyre everye one of you to take a coppie of that for my sake Noe more to you at this tyme, but the Lorde have youe in his keeping untill the ende of the worlde. Written the 27 of January, 1566. I desyre all to praye to God for me, that I maye ende my life with patience, and that he maye take me to his mercye. By me Sir Thomas White, Knight, Alderman of London, and founder of St. John's college, Oxford.”

† It may be proper to state, that the person receiving the loan invariably pays the expense of the bond in this town—a contrary practice was once adopted, but was immediately given up, on the ground, that by taking the money from the charity, the numerical benefits thereof would be materially lessened.

“ and property, till about the year 1692, when the members of the Corporation differing among themselves about the division of the said surplus, Mr. S. Troughton, bailiff of the said estate, and Mr. E. O——n (who 13th January, 1691, had been dismissed from his office of clerk of the council-house) made discoveries to the other Corporations, who are concerned in this charity, of the improved value of the said estate ; of the city’s leasing to one another at low rents, and of the many large fines, which from time to time had been taken.”

In consequence of this discovery the Corporations of Nottingham, Northampton, Leicester, and Warwick, in hiliary term, 1695, filed an information in the court of Chancery, in order to obtain an account of the surplus profits, and an augmentation of their respective shares of the charity.—The information remained undecided upon till the 13th of January, 1700, when it was dismissed by the Lord Chancellor and four of the Judges ; though certainly not without strong suspicion of “ evenhanded justice” having been sported with ; for, on the plaintiffs appealing to the House of Lords, in February, 1702, the house ordered, that the court of Chancery should give such relief on the information *as should be just* ; the Peers, at the same time, declaring it to be their opinion, *that the increase of the value of the estate in question ought to be applied towards the several charities and appointments.* In consequence of this order, the court of Chancery, on the 12th of June, 1703, decreed, that the full improved value of the said estate should be applied according to the order of the House of Lords. Directions were therefore given by the court for ascertaining the yearly value ; and further directions reserved till the master had made his report. Accordingly, on the 9th of July, 1705, the master reported, that the clear yearly value was £612 12s. 2d. and that the fines taken on granting leases amounted to £750. A short time proved, however, that the Corporation of Coventry still possessed sufficient influence with the master to induce him to conceal the truth ; and, on the 10th of June, 1708, he was ordered to amend his report, which he did on the 9th of July, 1709, when he certified the clear yearly value of the estate to be £988 13s. 2d. On the 14th of October following the court desired, that the Corporation of Coventry should account for what they had received since the order was made by the House of Lords ; and a receiver of the rents of the said estate was appointed. And the master reported, that the sum of £2241 1s. 3d. was due from the said Corporation.

When this immaculate Corporation found their power of corruption had failed with the higher authorities they applied its baleful influence to the members of the other four Corporations, and, as far as the *will* of the latter went, they succeeded ; for, on the 2d of January, 1705, the parties met by appointment at Lutterworth in Leicestershire, and agreed upon the following division of the property, namely, that Coventry should give £825, to be divided among the other Corporations ; and that, from the 10th of March, 1703, each Corporation should have sixty pounds a year. The infamy of this contract soon became notorious ; and the court of Chancery recommended to the Attorney-General to bring an information *ex-officio* against the aggressors, in behalf of the inhabitants of the several cities and towns, as *paupers*, to set aside the said agreement, and enforce the former decree. Accordingly, in the Michaelmas term, 1709, such information was preferred, accompanied with a request, that the *trust* of the charity might be transferred. And, on the 27th of February, 1710, the court declared the Lutterworth agreement to be very vile and corrupt, and

entered into with an intent to evade the order of the House of Lords; and decreed that the same should be set aside, and also that the Corporation of Coventry should pay the costs of the present application out of their own pockets. At the same time the former cause standing to be heard on the master's report, for further directions as to the £2241 1s. 3d. the Corporation were ordered to bring the same before the master in three months; and, in the mean time the consideration of transferring the *trust* was suspended. After various shufflings on the part of the Corporation, the court decreed, on the 4th of March, 1711, that the *trust* should be transferred to a William Brumley, Esq.; and, on the 22d of May, 1712, a sequestration was issued against the Corporation estates for the recovery of the said £2241 1s. 3d.; but, though the rental of these estates amounted to upwards of £700 per annum, the Corporation contrived to prevent the sequestrators from obtaining more than about £284, in the course of seven years. In consequence of affidavits presented to the court on the 22d of July, 1718, by the Corporation, the sequestration was suspended; and, on the 13th of July, 1720, they paid the whole money, and obtained a discharge of the sequestration. Afterwards the Corporation applied to the House of Lords and to the court of Chancery for a re-occupation of the *trust*; and, on the 24th, 25th, and 26th of October, 1722, this long litigated cause was finally argued by counsel on the part of the several Corporations and the Merchant Tailors' company, before the Lord Chancellor, and his lordship delivered a decretal order, and which restored the charity to its original purpose, and the *trust* thereof to the Corporation of Coventry, under some very wholesome regulations, one of which was, that, when a lease was to be made belonging to the charity lands, the common cryer should proclaim it round the city. It was also decreed, that there should be from time to time two books kept, one by the Corporation, and the other in the vestry of St. Michael's church; and therein be entered copies of the schedules of the securities; and the names and places of abode of the several persons, and their sureties receiving any part of the loan-money. And that two other books be kept in the like manner, wherein shall be entered abstracts of the several leases, then in being, or afterwards to be granted, expressing the parcels of land so leased, and the names and places of abode of the lessees. The Lord Chancellor concluded his decretal order, by inviting the inhabitants of any of the cities or towns interested in this charity, in case the rent of the estate be not properly divided, to apply to the court of Chancery for redress. His words are, "and any of the parties or of the inhabitants of the city of Coventry, or of the towns of Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, and Warwick, or any of them, or the magistrates or clerks of the council of the city of Coventry, are to be at liberty, from time to time to resort to this court for such further orders as occasion shall require."

Though *taxed costs* were finally awarded to the defendants in this suit, it must naturally be inferred, that much expense would be incurred which would not be refunded; and to defray the whole or a part of such surplus, or to enable them to prosecute the suit while pending, I am credibly informed, that the Corporation of Nottingham sold a piece of land in Derbyshire, called *Mansil Park*, which belonged exclusively to their chamber estate. There is another circumstance extremely honorable to our Corporation respecting the distribution of this charity, which is,—there is an order of hall, which precludes any member of their body from enjoying any part of it.—

Compare this with the conduct of a neighbouring Corporation, and the contrast will be found most conspicuously honorable to one party, and dishonorable to the other.

	£	s.	d.
The net amount of the rents of this estate for the year ending at Lady-day 1813, was	-	-	1661 9 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Four-sevenths of which were appropriated to loans for Nottingham	-	-	£949 8 4
Four-fifths for alms to one hundred and forty-two poor freemen of Coventry	-	-	569 13 0
Twelve-eighteenth to the Mayor, Recorder, and ten Aldermen of that city	-	-	94 18 9
Three-eighteenth to the Merchant Tailors	-	-	23 14 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Three-eighteenth to the clerk of the trustees	-	-	23 14 8 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fraction	-	-	0 0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
			1661 9 7 $\frac{1}{4}$

The sum thus brought, increased the total amount of Sir Thomas White's loan money in this town to £9850, which is let out in fifty pound shares to burgesses during nine years, free of interest; and the Corporation make it a rule of not letting the same person have a second loan, while fresh applicants can be found.

Deering mentions two other bequests as being left for distribution in loans in like manner to the foregoing, namely, "Mr. Perks (Lottery 13th July, 1620) at his going from this town, gave 5*l.* to "the poor, and £30 more to lend to six young men, burgesses of this town at £5 per man, by way "of free loan for seven years, and so after seven years are expired, to six others, to have the said "money as before for seven years, and so to six others from seven years to seven years for ever; "they putting in sufficient security for payment thereof accordingly." The other is a bequest of £40 which our author says was left by Robert Staples, on the 8th of February, 1631, which was to be lent in eight five pound shares, to young burgesses, for the term of six years, and so on for ever. He also gives us a list of six persons who received Perks's loan in 1641, and a list of eight persons who received that of Staples's in 1636; the account of the whole of which bequest our author says he found among Mr. John Town's papers, then in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Chappell, rector of St. Peter's. Now, as Deering wrote his antiquities more than a century after the last of these dates, he had no occasion to have mentioned these persons as having received the loans in question, if he could have found any authority for their having been received at a subsequent period; and, as I cannot obtain any intelligence of these charities at the town clerk's office, it is fair to conclude, that they have never been distributed since the dates given by Deering.

*Lady Grantham*, wife of Sir Thomas Grantham, in 1671, deposited two hundred pounds in the hands of the Corporation, the interest whereof was to be applied in perpetuity to the putting out poor burgesses' boys apprentice. The money annually arising from this deposit is divided into three, three pound shares, and the remaining pound is given for filling up the three indentures.

*John Barker*, gent. of this town, in 1732, left £50 to be put out on good security, the interest to be applied once in two years to the putting out apprentice a poor boy belonging to St. Peter's parish; the rector and churchwardens of that parish for the time being to be perpetual trustees for the charity. But, when the present workhouse was built, this charity, as the author has been informed, was most improperly applied to that purpose. A mural monumental stone, the inscription on which is nearly obliterated, at the end of St. Peter's chancel, notices this benefactor.

*Sir Thomas Mannors*, by his will, dated the 30th of June, 1562, left a rent charge of £5 per annum upon a house in Wilford, to be distributed among the poor of the three parishes of Nottingham, at the discretion of the respective incumbents and churchwardens. This money was paid by the late Samuel Newham, Esq. of Wilford; and is now by his widow.

*Roger Mannors*, Esq. in 1601, granted a yearly donation of £5 to be distributed in like manner as the last named charity.—*Lost*.

*William Willoughby*, of Nuneaton in the county of Warwick, by his will dated the 3d of October, 1587, appropriated a property sufficient to buy four frize gowns once in every five years to be given to the same number of poor women of this town; and £6 to be divided among six poor men at the same time. He likewise left an annual donation of 6s. 8d. to be given to a godly preacher for delivering a sermon on Whitsunday. He was buried, according to Deering, at Normanton-upon-Soar. This charity is received by the churchwardens of St. Mary's.

*Henry Martin*, of this town, baker, in 1689, settled a rent charge of £3 per annum upon a house in St. James's-street, to be equally divided among the three parishes, and applied, with the approbation of the mayor, for the time being, towards apprenticing poor boys. This charity is paid by the mayor's sergeant in equal parts to the overseers of the three parishes. He also pays six shillings a year from the same charity to the overseers of Lambley.

*Robert Sherwin*, alderman of this town, by his will dated the 28th September, 1638, directed that one half of the rent of a house in Angel-row, now the Bell inn, should be divided among the three parishes; and the churchwardens are enjoined to distribute the same to the poor in *twopenny shares* every Michaelmas and Lady-day. Mrs. Lart owns the other half of this house; and, in 1807, she obtained a lease of the charity half for twenty-one years, at the rent charge of 15*l.* per annum, and on condition of expending a certain sum in repairs.

*Robert Sherwin*, son to the above, by his will, dated the 19th of June, 1660, left a rent charge upon his estates generally of twenty-six shillings a year, with an order of distrainer upon any of his estates, in or about Nottingham, if such charity was not paid, for such money to be given weekly by the churchwardens of St. Peter's to six poor widows who should attend the church on Sundays to hear divine service. This is the charity which was withheld a few years ago, and which would have been lost, had it not been for the gentlemanly and humane conduct of Dr. Staunton.

*Anthony Achman*, or *Acham*, as Deering gives the name, gentleman, of Holborn, London, by his will, dated the 27th of June, 1638, left a rent charge of five pounds per annum upon some lands within the manor of Asterly in Lincolnshire, to the poor of Nottingham, to be distributed in bread by the mayor at six several times in the year; but it has long been customary for the mayor to deliver the same to the churchwardens of the several parishes for their distribution. This charity was withheld from 1811 to 1814, when it was recovered from the lord of the manor of Asterly by the praise-worthy exertions of Mr. Thomas Roberts, churchwarden of St. Mary's.

“*Sir George Peckham*,” says Deering, “late of Denham in the county of Bucks, Knt. who out of his noble disposition to works of charity and piety, by his last will and testament, gave to the town of Nottingham one hundred pounds of lawful English money, the use and benefit to be yearly distributed to the poor inhabitants there, by discretion of the mayor and aldermen of the

“ said town for the time being, and departed this life the 23d day of July, 1635. This well meaning gentleman for some time practised physic in this town, he was a mighty man for judiciary astrology, as far as relates to the discovery of distempers to which the human fabric is subject. He was a Roman catholic and an implicit believer of the Romish legends, with relation to the miracles wrought by saints and the power of intercession, which in a great measure appears by his death, which happened to him by too eager an act of superstitious devotion. This, Lilly the astrologer in his own life, gives us an account of, after his rough manner.—“ In the year 1634, I taught Sir George Peckham, Knt. astrology, that part which concerns sickness, wherein he so profited that in two or three months he would give a very true discovery of any disease, only by his figures. He practised at Nottingham, but unfortunately died in 1635, at St. Winifrid’s Well, in Wales, in which he continued so long mumbling his pater-nosters and *Sancta Winifreda orapro me*, that the cold struck into his body, and after his coming forth of the well he never spoke more.”—Whence this gentleman’s charity should come, or of its distribution at any time I cannot learn any thing ; therefore conclude it to be lost.

*William Robinson*, of Hull, gent. by an indenture made the 14th of October, 1703, agreed with the Corporation of Nottingham, that, in consideration of his depositing in their hands one hundred pounds, they should pay six pounds a year for ever, that is one half of that sum to the vicar of St. Mary’s, and the other half in equal proportions to the rectors of the other two parishes, to be by them distributed in bread to the poor.

*Mary Wilson*, in 1647, left a rent charge of thirty shillings upon a close, called *Trough-close*, to be laid out in gowns, to be given to two poor women of St. Mary’s and St. Peter’s parishes alternately ; but the proprietor of the close had rather cloath himself with the money than the poor females, according to the donor’s will ; and the charity has not been paid during a considerable length of time.

“ *Mr. Thomas Saunderson*, gent. by his will, dated February 2d, 1711, left to the poor of Nottingham 40s. per annum for the space of seven years, one moiety to the parish of St. Mary, the other to be equally divided between St. Peter’s and St. Nicholas’s, and after the expiration of that term, he left the rents and profits of his two messuages or tenements in Pilcher-gate in Nottingham, together with the stables and gardens thereto belonging (except 40s. per annum) to poor housekeepers of the three parishes, to be distributed in like proportion as above said.”—*Deering*.

These houses are large and substantial brick buildings on the south side of Pilcher-gate, and are respectively occupied by Mr. Salthouse, hosier, and Mr. Johnson, sexton of St. Mary’s. The testator’s will directs that there shall be constantly three trustees, and that, on the demise of one, the other two shall fill up such vacancy by their united choice. The present trustees are, John Elliott, Esq. John Topott, Esq. and Mr. Martin Roe, draper in the Poultry. To them belongs the distribution of the charity, which, except in case of deduction for repairs, takes place once in three years ; and it is presumable, that their characters are a sufficient guarantee for such distribution being conformable to the donor’s will. The £2 excepted by *Deering*, is annually paid into the hands of Samuel Smith, Esq. and Co. bankers, for the use of the Blue-coat School.



*Abel Collin*, the worthy founder of the hospital in Friar-lane, bequeathed £20 to St. Mary's, £20 to St. Nicholas's, and £15 to St. Peter's as a perpetual fund, to be laid out in coal, by the respective churchwardens, in the summer seasons, which were to be sold to the poor during winter at the summer prices. This practice has long since ceased to be followed; and, probably, the fund was absorbed in the general expenses of the parishes.

*William Gregory*, gent. and *John Gregory*, his son, in 1650, settled a rent charge of two shillings a week upon four houses on the north side of Barker-gate, to be given in bread to the poor of St. Mary's parish. The houses are now uniform substantial buildings, adjoining the estate of Mr. Thomas Burton.

*Hannah Metham*, by will dated the 17th of December, 1687, left a rent charge of twenty shillings a year upon a messuage and bakehouse in Spread Eagle yard, Long-row, to be given in bread, baked at the said bakehouse, to the poor of St. Mary's parish, on Christmas eve.

And *Elizabeth Metham*, by will dated the 24th of May, 1695, left an additional rent charge of thirty shillings per annum upon the same premises, to be disposed of in the same manner on the 11th of November. The churchwardens received the bread, and distribute it.

*William Thorpe*, of Blidworth, by his will dated the 26th of May, 1721, left ten shillings per annum, to the vicar of St. Mary's, on condition of his preaching a sermon on the 29th of May, in commemoration of the restoration of Charles the Second.

*William Burton*, gent. of Hallam in Derbyshire, in 1726, bequeathed £100 to the poor of St. Mary's parish, for the legal interest of which the overseers stand accountable to the parishioners at large. This money is given away in bread, on St. Thomas's-day, at the workhouse, to such poor persons as apply,

*William Frost*, farrier of this town, by his will dated the 20th of September, 1781, left £500, the interest of which to be given, by the vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary's parish, to such poor housekeepers within their jurisdiction as do not receive parochial aid.

*Henry Locket*, gent. of this town, by his will dated June the 12th, 1790, left £55 the interest of which to be intrusted to the same hands, and disposed of in the same manner as the last named bequest. The capital of both is in the three per cent. consols, and, in 1808, was transferred to the Rev. Dr. Bristow, vicar, and to Mr. Tollinton and Mr. Cullen, churchwardens.\* When Mr. Thomas Roberts (who was chosen churchwarden by the parishioners) received the accounts from Mr. George Stretton, his immediate predecessor in office, at Easter, 1814, he found no account of the receipt or distribution of these two charities; nor did he receive any information on the subject till his going out of office. He then applied to the vicar, and found that he had regularly drawn the interest, and that the principal part of it was disposed of. The vicar, however consented to give eight pounds a year out of the interest to the churchwardens, for them to distribute, retaining the rest to be given to such poor persons as he might select; and he accordingly paid to Mr. Roberts sixteen pounds for two years. Mr. Roberts likewise applied for, and obtained from the

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\* As this money cannot be drawn without the consent of the churchwardens they will always have the power of seeing it properly distributed; and, in so doing, they will have performed an essential part of their duty.

sexton a satisfactory account of the distribution of the remainder of the two year's receipts. This was an act of *justice*, and not of *suspicion* !

*Thomas Roberts*, fellmonger in Narrow-marsh, left a rent charge of fifteen shillings a year upon his house on the south side of that street, now possessed and occupied by Mr. Thomas Roberts, of whom we have just been speaking, and who pays the bequest in question ; ten shillings of which is given to the churchwardens for their distribution to the poor, and five shillings to the Blue-coat School. It is proper to observe, that, till Mr. Roberts became churchwarden, the ten shillings was regularly entered into the churchwarden's accounts as public property ; but *he* caused it to be given to the poor in bread, and thus fulfilled the will of the donor.

*Robert Staples*, who has been mentioned before as a friend to the poor, left a rent charge of twenty shillings a year upon two shops in Shoe-booth, to be paid to a godly and learned divine for preaching one sermon on the Sunday before Whitsunday, and another on the previous Sunday to Christmas-day ; the subject of each to be, to exhort the congregations to acts of charity to the poor. The shops stood about the centre of the north side of Shoe-booth, on the site of which stands the house now occupied by Mr. William Gaskill, broker—the property has lately been purchased by the Corporation. The rent charge used to be paid by the Rev. Dr. Haines ; but since his death, I believe it has been discontinued ; at least it has not been paid since that time to the vicar of St. Mary's.

*Luke Jackson*, of the city of London, in 1630, bequeathed two-thirds of the tithes of Horsepool in the county of Leicester, to the rector and poor of St. Peter's parish, Nottingham, for ever ; viz. forty shillings a year to the rector, on condition of his preaching a sermon on the 28th of July, that being the anniversary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588, and one on the 5th of November, in commemoration of the gunpowder plot, in 1605 ; and the residue to be given to the poor. In 1793, the income of this bequest was valued at £45 per annum.

*William Greaves*, rector of Nuthall in this neighbourhood, in 1639, settled a rent charge of twenty shillings a year upon a house in Bridlesmith-gate, to be paid to the churchwardens of St. Peter's for the use of the poor of that parish. Deering says, that the house was in the occupation of a person of the name of Cartwright Shaw, a glazier, at the time the bequest was made ; and closes his remarks with observing, " this was never paid." I have made every inquiry in my power to ascertain this house, but in vain.

*William Skiffington*, Esq. in 1634, left a rent charge of twenty shillings a year upon a house at the north-east corner of Bridlesmith-gate to be distributed in bread to the poor of St. Peter's on the Tuesday before Easter. This house is the property of Mr. Charles Sutton, printer, stationer, &c. and here the Nottingham Review is printed. The money is regularly paid by him to the churchwardens.

*John Burrows*, in 1659, directed twenty shillings a year to be paid out of the rent of some property in Basford, to the rector of St. Peter's for preaching two sermons, the one on Easter and the other on Whit-Monday.

*Mary Lawton*, by her will dated January the 24th, 1632, left a rent charge of twenty shillings a year to the poor of St. Peter's, upon three small houses in Lister-gate. The houses stood at one

corner at the upper end of the street ; and, some years after the death of the donor, was in the possession of one Robert Nichols ; but the money never was paid.

*William Drury*, of this town, in 1676, left a rent charge of twenty shillings upon two leys of ground on the Rye-hills in the meadows, then of the annual value of thirty-five shillings, to be distributed to six poor widows of St. Peter's parish ; with this proviso—if his heir neglected or refused to pay the donation, the minister of the parish to seize upon the property—to pay the money as directed, and have the remainder for his trouble.

*Jonathan Paramour*, gent. the same, I presume, that Deering alludes to as having been an old servant in the castle, in 1730, purchased an acre of land in the meadows, and settled it as a property upon the rectory of St. Peter's, in consideration of the rector preaching a sermon on Ash-Wednesday, and one on the Ascension-day for ever.

*Thomas Trigge*, alderman, gave fifty pounds, in 1704, to buy land with, the rent whereof to be given to the poor of St. Peter's on Christmas-day and Good-Friday, by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of that parish.

There is a charity belonging to the last named parish, known by the name of the *Lenton-charity*, which consists of a parcel of land within the liberties of that village, called *Duck-meadow* ; and is held by a person of the name of Hollingworth at the yearly rent of ten pounds, which the churchwardens dispose of among the poor according to their own discretion. The close is bounded on two sides by the estate of John Wright, Esq.

The author has an old manuscript by him which says, “ 1759, Mr. William Parnham left ——— pounds to the clergyman of St. Peter's, to read prayers on the first Sunday of the five summer months at five o'clock in the morning, and to give the sacrament on Easter and Whit-Sunday “ at six o'clock in the morning.” What the sum is I have not ascertained ; but, the prayers are read as directed, and the clerk and sexton have six shillings a year each for their attendance.

*Dr. Grey*, who, according to Deering, was a physician here, and died at Bilborow in 1705, left twenty pounds as a charity, the interest of which to be given, at Christmas and Easter, to the poor of St. Nicholas's, at the discretion of the rector and churchwardens. This charity was increased to £30 per annum by the Rev. Mr. Abson.

*Anthony Walker*, a traveller, in the year 1714, devised the rent of a copyhold estate at Matlock, in the county of Derby, consisting of six acres of land and two cottages, to the poor of that parish where he might chance to breath his last, which happened to be in a house near the bottom, and on the west side of Lister-gate, in the parish of St. Nicholas in this town, about three years after the will was made : the house stood at the south end of that part of the Bridge estate which lies in Lister-gate, and has lately been taken down, and hitherto, not rebuilt. It is related of Walker, that he was left an orphan when young, and that he had to encounter the cutting adversities, too often the portion of that class of unfortunates—that, when he arrived at manhood, he saved as much money as enabled him to buy a pack-horse, and after that others, with which he travelled till near the day of his death ; and that he carried his will in his pocket. In 1720, Francis Newdigate, Esq. and Mr. John Else, churchwardens, obtained a surrender of the estate to them and their heirs, for the use specified by the testator.

“*Jacob Tibson*, by indenture bearing date March the 13th, 1729, did give to the poor of the parish of St. Nicholas, a messuage divided into two or more tenements, with cellars, &c. situated in Lister-gate, the rent thereof to be distributed half yearly to a number of poor housekeepers as shall be judged proper objects by the said minister and churchwardens, not exceeding five shillings to each. N. B. The premises are but in a bad condition, and therefore not extraordinary well tenanted; the present rent is £4 11s. almost one half of which goes in repairs.” *Deering*.

This “messuage” occupied the ground on which are the two southernmost of those three very high houses, and the entry between the second and third, which stand on the west side of Lister-gate, the third being erected on freehold land, and also forms the boundary, in that direction, of St. Nicholas’s parish. In contempt of the donor’s will (if *Deering*’s account be true, and I have no reason to suspect its accuracy) these premises were divided into nine apartments and converted into a kind of hospital for the reception of such poor persons belonging to the parish as the officers chose to put in. But this is not the worst part of the business: for, some twenty years ago, the parish officers advertised the estate for sale; but, for reasons which then appeared, no purchaser could be found. About the year 1802, however, the parish contrived to sell the estate to the late Mr. James Harrison, butcher, in Castle-gate, who about that time served the office of churchwarden, the money, as I am informed, being appropriated towards paying for the additional burying ground, which had been bought on credit of the late Lamuel Lowe, Esq. The poor occupiers of the premises, who were principally far in years, before they could be prevailed on to quit, obtained a pledge from the parish for the payment of their rent in other habitations so long as they lived.\*

This Mr. Tibson, about three years before his death, gave £40 to the rector and churchwardens, the interest of which to be given, at their discretion, to poor housekeepers of this parish.

*Elizabeth Bilby*, formerly wife to the last named benefactor, gave £20 to the Corporation, the interest of which to be paid to the churchwardens and overseers of St. Nicholas’s parish, for them to distribute to their own poor at Christmas and May-day for ever.

*John James*, an eminent tanner in this town, and who served the office of mayor in 1646, left a little property at his death, the rent of which to be applied to charitable purposes. It consists of a small plot of ground and a cottage, called the *Wine Tavern*, at Ashover, in Derbyshire, and a parcel of land at Basford, in this neighbourhood, which unitedly produce about £22 per annum. A certain portion of this is ordered to be given to two godly ministers, and the rest to be distributed at the discretion of the trustees, who have the power of filling up vacancies in their number by election among themselves. They at present consist of John Fellows, Esq. N. Stubbins, Esq. Mr. T. C. Smith, and Mr. John Stone, hosiers, and Mr. H. Enfield, solicitor.

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\* The author waited upon one of the executors of Mr. Harrison, to inquire what sort of title had been given with this estate; but all information was refused.

As it must be the wish of every man, that has any regard to character, to promote the distribution of charitable funds according to the will of the respective donors, the author hopes it will accord with public approbation, to close this highly interesting chapter with the following act of parliament, with the annexed head from the 3d volume of the *PHILANTHROPIST*, from which it is extracted; the author having been furnished with the document, in consequence of his own remarks on the subject of public charities, which appeared in pages 156, 7, 8, and 9, of the 8th number :—

*“ Remedy for Abuses of Trusts created for charitable Purposes.*

“ TO THE EDITOR OF THE PHILANTHROPIST.

“ SIR—To the unwearied exertions of Sir Samuel Romilly, society is indebted for the act of parliament I now send you. Heavy expenses and the law’s delay have hitherto deterred men from any attempt to rescue property from the hands of wealthy corporations or interested individuals, though large estates have been lost to the public, which piety and benevolence originally devoted to purposes of charity, for the succour of the aged and the instruction of the young. The right now given to any man, of proceeding by petition, ensures dispatch, and exonerates from loss.

“ I hope the knowledge of this right will stimulate many to active exertions.

“ I am your’s, &c.

“ *CAP. CI.—An Act to provide a summary Remedy in Cases of Abuses of Trusts created for charitable Purposes.*”

[9th July, 1812.]

Whereas it is expedient to provide a more summary remedy in cases of breaches of trust created for charitable purposes, as well as for the just and upright administration of the same; be it therefore enacted by the King’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that, from and after the passing of this act, in every case of a breach of any trust, or supposed breach of any trust created for charitable purposes, or whenever the direction or order of a court of equity shall be deemed necessary for the administration of any trust for charitable purposes, it shall be lawful for any two or more persons to present a petition to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Keeper, or Lords Commissioners for the custody of the Great Seal, or Master of the Rolls for the time being, or to the Court of Exchequer, stating such complaint, and praying such relief as the nature of the case may require; and it shall be lawful for the Lord Chancellor, Lord Keeper, and Commissioners for the custody of the Great Seal, and for the Master of the Rolls, and the Court of Exchequer, and they are hereby required to hear such petition in a summary way, and upon affidavits or such other evidence as shall be produced upon such hearing, to determine the same, and to make such order therein, and with respect to the costs of such applications as to him or them shall seem just: and such order shall be final and conclusive, unless the party or parties who shall think himself or themselves aggrieved thereby, shall, within two years from the time when such order shall have been passed and entered by the proper officer, have preferred an appeal from such decision to the House of Lords, to whom it is hereby enacted and declared that an appeal shall lie from such order.

2. Provided always and be it further enacted, that every petition so to be preferred as aforesaid, shall be signed by the persons preferring the same, in the presence of and shall be attested by the solicitor or attorney concerned for such petitioners, and every such petition shall be submitted to and be allowed by his Majesty’s Attorney or Solicitor General, and such allowance shall be certified by him before any such petition shall be presented.

3. And be it further enacted, that neither the petitions, nor any proceedings upon the same or relative thereto, nor the copies of any such petitions or proceedings, shall be subject or liable to the payment of any stamp duty whatever.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

### TRADE.

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THE most unpardonable error in the historians of our country is, the slovenly manner in which they have treated on trade, in the earlier ages: even the masculine genius of Hume either sunk under, or he overlooked this important task. We read the history of British, Saxon, Danish, and a number of Norman kings, and the principal subjects we find are—that they were born in such or such a year—that they ascended the throne by means of murder, intrigue, or permission at such or such an age—that such and such women became their wives, and others their concubines—that they begot so many children, some lawful, and others not so—that they engaged in so many wars—that they were brave, cowardly, hypocritical, merciful, or just—and, that they died at such a time, either by the hand of violence, or by nature's unerring laws.

It is an almost universal maxim with people, when trade and commerce are under discussion, to speak of them as being exactly the same thing. If trade be spoken of as a general principle, the conclusion is proper; but still, trade and commerce may be fairly separated. Trade may be carried on without commerce; but commerce cannot be carried on without trade. The dull plodding practice of *home traffic*, such as a huckster's buying a cart load of peas, and carrying them to the next market town for sale, constitutes trade in a limited sense; whereas it requires an exchange of merchandise between nation and nation to constitute commerce. A shoemaker, a draper, a joiner, &c. is a tradesman, and many in those classes are most respectable tradesmen too; but a man must be a merchant, before he can be called a commercial man. *Trade*, in the limited application of the word, never can, with propriety, assume the name of *commerce*, though commerce may that of trade; for, properly speaking, *it is the trade of nations*; in which sense I wish to be understood while speaking of it as a general operative principle on this interesting subject.\*

Trade brushes off the rust of barbarism, and supersedes, by politeness of behaviour, the rude customs of seclusion, the consequent attendants upon those who inhabit mountains and woody wilds. It sunders the benumbing chains of feudalism; softens and harmonizes the passions of, otherwise

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\* The distinguishing, and often disgusting, pomposity with which some men attach the appellation of *trade* to certain mechanical and handicraft occupations, merely because certain monarchs have gratified one part of their subjects at the expense of the other, is too preposterous to merit a serious discussion. These and such like *boons*, as they were called, were granted by wily or wicked monarchs, in hopes of gaining some important object, while the public opinion was divided about a *name*. Tyrants sometimes fatten on the folly of their subjects, as a knave does on the credulity of a religious devotee—Charters granted under the pretext of protecting particular businesses were so many phantasmagorias exhibited by the cunning to deceive the weak. Charles the Second granted by charter to his brother, afterwards James the Second, the exclusive right of carrying on the slave trade on the whole coast of Africa during a *thousand years*.—See Parliamentary Chronicle for 1792.

unconquerable originality ; socializes the jarring interests, attempts the prejudices of mankind. Trade engenders new desires in the human breast—new desires in the human heart—new desires beget refined wants, which propel the hand to industry, and foster in the brain the germs of invention—invention gives new impulse to rivalry and exertion, and spreads the banners of envied and inspiring prosperity far and wide ; while these in their turn become the fountains from which the meandering streams of labour and wealth flow with fertilising rapidity through the land : hence the spurs of emulation force into activity the dormant faculties of the body and the mind. Trade speaks the language of all nations, and thereby becomes the interpreter of the wishes, and the explainer of the interests of those who inhabit the most distant regions of the earth. It enables the rich to glitter in their gold, to sparkle in their diamonds, to be clad in their ermines, and to indulge in all the delicacies of fancy and of taste ; while it also enables the poor to obtain many enjoyments which would otherwise be denied to them in their humble sphere of life. Trade is the fountain of prosperity, and the sinew of action in war, particularly in a country like ours, that is isolated from the rest of the world by the rude and surgy deep. It cloaths the land with towns and cities, instead of wilds and forests ; and with men, instead of savage and devouring beasts ; and thereby gives wealth to the landed interest, and comfort to the labouring poor ; and, if that comfort be withheld by artificial means, to trade the fault is not to be attached.

The *Economists*, or those men who contend that the trade of nations is not necessary to the support and greatness of any particular country, may exclaim, “ this is all mere rant and *ipse dixit* ; you give us no proof of the truth of your assertions ; whereas we can name China, that “ is great, powerful, and rich, and this too without commerce, comparatively speaking, or any “ external relations ” Very well ! all this is granted to exist in appearance ; and if you would condescend to reason a little on the subject the cause would appear very plain.

The empire of China, as long swayed by her present race of emperors, is about 1800 miles long and 1600 broad ; consequently it embraces (as we know it does) as great a variety of climates, and brings forth as great a variety of productions as all Europe together ; nay more, for it produces some of those articles which we call luxuries, and which we find ourselves impelled to fetch from that and other distant countries : the extremities of that vast empire producing articles of directly opposite qualities ; and the country abounding with canals and navigable rivers, by which means the trade carried on between the different provinces is equal to that of all Europe. The *internal* trade of China stands in the same point of view as the external trade of other countries. But because China possesses within itself the means of gratifying its numerous population with the luxuries as well as the necessaries of life, it is made an object of contention with the economists against the commerce of other nations. As well might they say, because a farmer can obtain a basin of milk by calling upon his milkmaid, that a poor man, without cow or servant, can do the same—the one has the means within himself—the other has them to seek !

Supposing all Europe was under one government, would that alter the nature of its productions, or the connections of its different parts, relative to the demand for the productions ? certainly not ! That trade, which is now called *commerce*, as carried on between its different states, were the whole consolidated into one vast empire, would be called *internal traffic* ; and thus the true

principle of trade would exist the same, only the manner of transacting it would be known by a different name.

We will now state a few propositions, which the enemies of trade will have more difficulty in answering than the foregoing.

Let the reader turn his attention to *Phœnicia*, to *Tyre*, to *Egypt*, to *Carthage*, to *Palmyra*, to *Venice*, to *Genoa* ; states and kingdoms that sprung from trade ; that were matured by its fecundating springs ; and that gradually fell to decay when its mellifluent streams were turned into other channels. In these places, where once beamed every comfort, every enjoyment, every art, every refinement, and every luxury, which owe their birth to industry, the cold blooded economist will find his dogmas answered by the howling of wild beasts, the depravity of man, the sterility of the soil, and the half stifled and solemn language of settled misery and despair. Ghent, Bruges, and Antwerp, though merely single cities, were abounding in arts and refined enjoyments, by means of trade, while London and Paris, which knew little of its advantages, were mere sinks, their inhabitants not possessing, or even knowing the use of a chimney. These are facts which defy the petty arts of sophistry to overturn, or even to shake their foundation in the public eye. There are millions, however, that enjoy the blessings of trade, who know not how to use the pen in its defence ; but once take it from them, and they will answer all the wily sophisms of the economists in these few words :—“ *Give us bread !—give us employment for our rusting spindles, our “ deserted benches, and empty looms !”* The sophist might tell them in reply, that they were quite happy ; and that the reason why they did not know it, was wholly owing to their own stupidity—they would hear him with amazement, and answer him by showing him their tattered garments, and their bodies worn to the bone for want of the necessaries of life !

Louis the Fourteenth, once asked Monsieur Colbert, what could be the reason why France, with all her power, was baffled in her endeavours to conquer the diminutive United States of Holland?—The reply of that great statesman was long, circumstantial, and unreserved, the substance of which is as follows :—Monsieur Colbert said, that, as France possessed thirteen millions of people, with eight acres of land to each person, while Holland had only three millions of inhabitants, and no more than three acres to each, it could not of course be for want of *land* that France was not more powerful, rich, and happy than the republic ; and yet, that such was the miserable fact, was too well known to be denied. That the rich people of France were compelled to pay nearly the whole of the national imposts, because, for want of due encouragement being given to trading pursuits, the poor were reduced to a state of absolute want, and were therefore unable to bear their just proportion of taxes. That the country abounded with beggars ; and happy indeed was the peasant that could obtain a pair of wooden shoes as a covering to his feet, and plenty of black bread and onions for his food. That the mechanics and artizans were carrying their ingenuity and industry to a foreign, because a better market, which not only deprived Louis of his most useful subjects, but likewise added strength and riches to his enemies. That the Dutch were in every respect in a directly opposite situation—That the imposts upon their trade nearly supplied the whole revenue of the state ; and, consequently, that the land, by being unfettered with taxes, rose in its value, was well cultivated, and thereby produced provisions in abundance, which could be afforded at



reasonable prices; therefore industry every where smiled, *and there were no beggars to be found!* And that the Dutch, having something worth defending, fought in defence of their country, not like machines, but as men who know the value of what they possess.

The consequence of this honest and judicious reply was, the advancement of Colbert by Louis to the important situation of minister of finance and the arts. The mighty, the comprehensive genius of Monsieur Colbert was now let loose: he soon filled the empty coffers of his master, not so much by laying on new taxes, as by enabling the people to pay the old ones. He made them a trading nation; and they rose from beggary to comparative opulence, as the fabled phoenix rises from its ashes, in consequence of those ashes receiving new life by the fructifying dews of heaven. In the course of little more than a century, France doubled her population, which had been rendered stationary by the application of the sterile doctrine of the economists; her land became cultivated, in proportion as her manufactories increased; and, instead of not being able to cope with the Dutch, she has made all the rest of Europe tremble at her arms.

Englishmen, more than any other people on the earth, ought to offer up their devotion at the altar of trade, as they not only enjoy the benefits arising from it, which other nations enjoy, that are engaged in commercial pursuits, but they likewise owe to it the inestimable possession of their civil and religious liberty, the truth of which we will endeavour to make appear.

Britain was famed among the Phœnicians and Greeks, long before the birth of Christ, for the excellency of its Cornish tin; the knowledge of which fact is worth more than a million of volumes composed of monkish legends, as it proves that the whole of the ancient Britons did not consist of ignorant barbarians, till instructed by their conquerors, as is too generally believed; there being no possibility of men worming ore from the bowels of the earth, and preparing it for use, without some knowledge of the mechanical or chymical arts. Some circumstance entirely fortuitous might cast the first *load*\* of tin in the way of the Cornish natives, lumps of which, from its ponderosity and peculiar appearance, they might preserve; and which would probably be shewn as articles of curiosity to the first friendly adventurers that set their feet upon the shore. These, doubtless, were the Phœnicians, who, from the knowledge they possessed of the value of metals, and the means of preparing them for the use of man, would instruct the Cornish natives how to give them malleability by means of fusion, probably conditioning, in the best manner they could, for the exclusive privilege of the traffic. An art once implanted in the human mind, naturally begets others; and a slender progress in the refinement of manners is a natural consequence. Thus by little and little the understanding becomes expanded, and receives new ideas of human polity, and of the necessity of forming associations for mutual defence and congregated independence, unknown to the inhabitants of any country in nature's rudest state. This will account for the marked distinction which is always found to exist, between the manners of those that inhabit the skirts of a country, and those who dwell in the interior, before the nature of civil government is generally understood. And here the powers of trade shew themselves to the humblest capacity, upon the habits and manners of mankind. Immediately on emerging from the original state of society, those who are ever so little

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\* This is the name which the Cornish miners apply to a stratum, or bed of ore.

practised in external traffic will see the necessity of wearing some kind of cloathing, not so much to screen the body against the inclemency of the weather, as to conceal certain parts of it from the eye of curiosity, in order to prevent the rising blush—Whenever *shame* has found a seat in the human mind, it is evident that *civilization* has been there to mark the outlines of its own foundation.

When the Phœnicians and the Greeks had bowed their necks to the Roman yoke, it is natural to suppose that the conquerors would obtain a knowledge of the trading intercourse of the conquered. They would soon learn from the trembling captive that Britain abounded with well timbered forests, with rich pastures, with immense herds of cattle, and with ores ; which circumstances, so inviting to the sons of rapine, would operate more powerfully in the breasts of the lordly Romans, than a mere thirst for empty martial glory, to induce them to attempt the conquest of our island. They made the attempt, and succeeded in the undertaking ; and they converted the British forests into ships, in which they exported the metal, the cattle, and the men, to other parts of their empire ; and in return they imported their vices, their crimes, and their arts. So much too did the Romans improve the culture of the land, that Britain soon became the imperial storehouse ; and her forests and harbours furnished them with the means of making her the depôt of the imperial navy. This, in the end, proved the bane of the Roman authority here ; for, in the third century, one *Carusius*, a Fleming by birth, obtained the command of the fleet, with which he bade defiance to the threats and the power of Maximian, the Western Emperor—he was declared Emperor of Britain, and maintained her independence some years ; till he fell by the hand of an assassin, and Rome recovered the shadow of sovereignty in the land. This is the first time we find Britain protected by a British fleet.\*

Notwithstanding the dreadful contentions and massacres, which almost amounted to extermination, between the British, Picts, Saxons, Danes, and Anglo-Saxons, during several generations after the evacuation of the island by the Romans, yet *trade* always bore its head above the storm ; for a proof of which we have only to turn our attention a few moments to the accounts given by historians of the vast sums of money raised by the Anglo-Saxons, at sundry times, on the spur of the occasion, wherewithal to purchase the forbearance of the Danes. Nature having denied to this country the means of obtaining the precious metals, except through the medium of plunder, or that of trade ; and the inhabitants, at the periods alluded to, not being capacitated to practice the *former* to any considerable extent ; therefore the *latter* must have been carried on by them very largely, or they could not have complied with those numerous exactions ; nor could the vacuums, occasioned in the circulating medium by such exactions, have otherwise been filled up.

We have two circumstances on record, which prove what importance was attached, by two of our greatest Saxon monarchs, to trading pursuits. Alfred refused to taste any delicacy except it had been brought from the Mediterranean, or the Indies ; and Athelstan passed a law, which specified that a merchant who should make three long sea voyages on his own account, should be admitted to the rank of Thane. But the Norman ruffian and his myrmidon followers, by

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\* Lord Cork, speaking of this hero, says, “ It is to him we owe the first dawns of our naval power : a power which has since appeared “ in all its meridian glory. From his conduct we were apprised of our natural strength as an island.”

exterminating the greater part of the people, but more particularly by riveting the chains of feudalism upon the miserable remnant, broke every social tie, and laid trade in a long and dreary sleep ; and with it slept the embers of English liberty. A solemn silence, like the curtain of night, expanded over the land ; and was only interrupted by the groans and reproaches of the vanquished, the hoarse shouts and triumphant arrogance of the victors, the clarion's discordant sound, and the clang of martial arms. The country was now parcelled out among the conqueror's captains, and with it the wretched inhabitants as their vassals ; and whose chains were rendered still more galling by the struggles which afterwards ensued between chieftain, and chieftain, and between chieftains united and their superior lord. The successors of William found to their cost, though the barons delighted in seeing their own vassals wreath under the lash of slavery, that they spurned at the idea of being vassals themselves—their resistance to unbridled domination frequently overturning, or endangering a throne, which they were originally intended to protect. The necessity of an interest to counterpoise the power of the sturdy barons soon appeared manifest to the monarch, which sometimes induced him to cast himself into the arms of the clergy ; but this was flying from Scylla to fall into Charybdis ; for the craft of the one party was as dangerous to the independence of the crown, as the unruly disposition of the other. At length prudence directed the monarch to foster the trading interest, which was almost extinct, in order to counterbalance the power of the factious barons, and the dangerously growing ascendancy of the clergy. Hence charters were granted to cities and boroughs, to secure to the inhabitants thereof certain privileges and immunities (dependent upon royal favor) as a sure mean of gaining partizans to the interest of the crown, by exciting a spirit of emulation among the vassals and retainers of the barons. The maxim was a good one ; and, from the moment of its adoption, trade again reared its fructuous head ; and with it its rose-cheeked handmaid—liberty. The king became the protector of trade, and trade the protector of the king.\*

The circle in which trade had to move, during a considerable length of time, was very circumscribed ; owing to various causes, such as a want of capital in those whose inclinations led them to its pursuits ; a want of confidence ; the dormant state of literature and of mechanical genius ; the discountenance it received from those who dreaded the effects its renovating influence could not fail to have upon the human mind ; and the murderous contentions, so long maintained between the houses of Lancaster and York. But, notwithstanding the feuds between the two royal houses, (independent of the other obstacles) for a time retarded the progress of trade, they finally established its importance, and laid the barbarous system of feudalism prostrate at its feet. Henry the Seventh had seen one nobleman (the Earl of Warwick) make and unmake kings at his will ; he had seen first one house and then the other triumphant, always by means of caballing with the barons : he had seen himself raised to the throne by a faction that he knew, upon receiving the slightest disgust, would not scruple to pluck the gorgeous diadem from his brow. Two attempts of this sort being actually made, in one of which the very man joined,† to whom Henry principally

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\* Though commerce may exist, in a small degree, without civil liberty, yet civil liberty was never known to exist without commerce ; except that sort of liberty which is enjoyed by the most uncultivated savages.

† Sir William Stanley.

owed the possession of the crown, and who was decapitated on the occasion. These things being well known to Henry, he determined, if possible, to ward off any unfavorable result; which purpose he accomplished by giving to trade every encouragement in his power. He excited in the breasts of the barons a passion for foreign delicacies—for costly show, and entertainments. Many of them became embarrassed in their circumstances; and consequently compelled to give up their numerous retainers and many of their vassals; or their new enjoyments—the former was the smaller sacrifice, because in making it at the shrine of their newly begotten vanity they could glitter in the gew-gaw fashions of the court, and thereby preserve a greater share of domestic concord. Their embarrassments, however, continued to grow upon them—they applied to the king for leave to dispose of parts of their estates, free of the capite tenure, which would sell the better, in consequence of the crown sacrificing its feudal claim.\* The requests were granted, because nothing could be more agreeable to the royal will. Numbers of tradesmen, who had acquired a money capital, now became possessed of freehold estates, which, along with the consideration they had already obtained, gave to the trading interest an imposing attitude in society, while the feudal system gradually sunk before it, as the snow-ball melts in the face of the mid-day sun.

Like cattle escaping from a pound, the poor vassals fled from their masters; and took shelter in trading towns, or on board of merchant ships. They soon reaped the fruit of their own industry—they became better fed and better clothed than what they had been accustomed to be; while their bosoms glowed with the soul-cheering fire of independence, till then by them unknown.—Contentment, mirth, and glee sat perching upon their brows, instead of despondency and gloom. Heaven seemed to have given them new life; AND THE SLAVE SUDDENLY FOUND HIMSELF EXALTED INTO MAN!!

As to our religious liberty, it is a branch springing from the proud stock of our civil independence; for had not trade previously diffused the enlightened rays of the latter among society, Henry the Eighth might have blustered against the pope; but he would have fallen a sacrifice in the tempest of his own raising; and the people, in all probability, would have groaned at the present day beneath the papal yoke.

As there are some men, that push their notions into society, who contend that trade has never added one sixpence to the wealth of England, we will conclude these observations with a simple statement of facts, and a few deductions naturally arising therefrom, which will put the assertions of the self-wise economists to the blush. From the year 1700, to 1800, the value of our exports, over that of our imports, amounted to £348,000,000. But it is the practice of the enemies of our trade, while they examine the question itself, to overlook all its consequences and bearings; else why do they tell us, because the duties upon exports and imports are paid by one Englishman into the hands of another, that those duties add nothing to the wealth of the country, or to the taxes of the state? They assert, that duties paid this way, is nothing but borrowing and lending; or to

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\* Though Edward the First, according to the records of parliament, permitted the barons to sell their land, such land still remained subject to the feudal law, which was an almost insuperable bar to the transfer of domains in parcels, as the expense of a transfer was nearly equal to the settler's share of their value. Therefore the right of sale was almost a nullity under such circumstances.

use a common adage, "it is robbing Peter to pay Paul." If the inhabitants of the *moon* would have the condescension to pay us a few duties for our goodness in permitting them to enjoy the light of the *sun*, the economists, *perhaps*, might acknowledge the utility of such payments. Let us, however, state the case fairly; and then try the argument by its own sterling merit.

Suppose the government demands forty millions of taxes annually; and that nine millions of that sum be paid in duties upon exports and imports to and from our own colonies, independently of foreign trade, which was the case in 1808;\* and suppose that these duties were entirely withdrawn; would not that sum be levied additionally upon the land; or upon our traffic with foreign nations? and, if levied upon the latter, it would amount to an annihilation of the whole. Land and trade being the only sources of taxation, though the products thereof are collected in many different ways. Then supposing the land proprietors were compelled to pay this additional sum, without being permitted to levy it upon their tenants, would they not have that sum less to expend in giving employment to industry in a thousand various ways? and would not this deduction from the employing fund cause additional misery, and a consequent increase of poor's rates? But supposing the land proprietors should not be compelled to pay this additional sum out of their rentals, would not the farmers be compelled to pay it? certainly they would, or it would not be paid at all! in the latter of which cases a national decrepitude and a yielding to external enemies must ensue; and in the former, an advancement in the price of provisions, corresponding with the additional sum demanded, must ensue. Here, then, view the question which way we will, it brings with it its consequent calamities to the working class, and to the nation at large. We might enlarge on this subject, by calculating on the trade with other nations; but it is presumed to be unnecessary to conviction, on a subject so very clear.

That Britain owes her civil and religious liberty, her independence as a nation, and a considerable share of her enjoyments to trade, is a position, I flatter myself, pretty clearly proved. And, as many persons, who are enemies to those liberties, have sought the accomplishment of their wicked object by an insidious attempt to shew the inutility of trade, I hope that will be an excuse with the liberal minded for this long digression in its support; conceiving as I do, that every patriot, who can convey his thoughts to the world through the medium of the press, ought to step forward in its defence, as a son would to preserve the life of his parent.

## TRADE OF NOTTINGHAM.

### MALT AND ALE.

Fortune did much for Nottingham in placing it in a situation to command an extensive share of inland traffic; and the ingenuity and industry of its inhabitants have finished what fortune left incomplete. Shortly after the conquest, many Normans settled in this town, probably at the instigation of Peverel, to re-people his newly acquired domains; and finding it to possess a highly advantageous situation for trade, by means of the majestic Trent; and finding too that the fertile

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\* See Parliamentary Debates for that year.

vale of Belvoir furnished plenty of grain, they soon turned their attention to the making of malt, and the brewing of ale. Probably these businesses had been followed here by the Saxons and other inhabitants of the place, long before the arrival of the Normans, some of whom might communicate to the latter the utility of carrying them on, as well for exportation as home consumption.\*—Various causes might operate to secure to this town a superiority in the malting business, which it enjoyed during many centuries, and which still exists in a partial degree; among which we may reckon the excellency of the barley produced in its neighbourhood, and particularly the facility with which fuel could be obtained. Nor would the excellent character which its ale always possessed through the country fail to add to the anxiety for the obtainment of its malt. The malting business seems to have been at its height in the time of Cromwell and that of Charles the Second, as Dr. Thoroton gives it as his opinion, that the inhabitants were making more profit of that business, at the period alluded to, than they by the wool trade had previously done.

Nottingham ale has been characterized by the following poetic effusion, which we will give for the amusement of those who still delight in making "the good creature" subservient to their gratification. The occasion of its being written was this:—A person of the name of Gunthorpe, who, within the memory of persons now living, kept the Punch Bowl public-house in Peck-lane, sent a barrel of ale of his own brewing as a present to his brother, an officer in the navy; and who, in return, composed the poetic epistle, and sent it, under the title of,

*"NOTTINGHAM ALE."*

Fair Venus, the goddess of beauty and love,  
Arose from the froth which swam on the sea :  
Minerva leapt out of the *cranium* of Jove,  
A coy sullen slut, as most authors agree :  
Bold Bacchus, they tell us, the prince of good fellows,  
Was a natural son—pray attend to my tale ;  
But they that thus chatter, mistake quite the matter  
—He sprung from a barrel of Nottingham ale.

*Chorus*—Nottingham ale, boys, Nottingham ale ;  
No liquor on earth like Nottingham ale !

And having survey'd well the cask whence he sprung,  
For want of more liquor, low spirited grew ;  
He mounted astride, set his a--se on the bung,  
And away to the gods and the goddesses flew ;  
But, when he look'd down, and saw the fair town,  
To pay it due honors, not likely to fail ;  
He swore that on earth, 'twas the place of his birth,  
And the best---and no liquor like Nottingham ale.

*Chorus*---Nottingham ale, &c.

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\* Deering states, that the Normans introduced malt liquor into England; whereas the common Chronicle of the country states there to have been "ale-houses" in it so early as the year 728.

Ye bishops and deacons, priests, curates, and vicars,  
 When once you have tasted you'll own it is true,  
 That Nottingham ale is the best of all liquors ;  
 And who understands the good creature like you ?  
 It expels every vapour---saves pen, ink and paper ;  
 And when you're disposed from the pulpit to rail,  
 T'will open your throats---you may preach without notes,  
 When inspired with a bumper of Nottingham ale.

*Chorus*---Nottingham ale, &c.

Ye doctors, who more execution have done.  
 With powder and bolus, with potion and pill ;  
 Than hangman with halter, or soldier with gun ;  
 Than miser with famine, or lawyer with quill ;  
 To dispatch us the quicker, you forbid us malt liquor,  
 Till our bodies consume, and our faces grow pale ;  
 But mind it, what pleases, and cures all diseases,  
 Is a comforting dose of good Nottingham ale !

*Chorus*---Nottingham ale, &c.

Ye poets, who brag of the Helicon brook,  
 The nectar of gods, and the juice of the vine ;  
 You say none can write well, except they invoke  
 The friendly assistance of one of the *nine*---  
 Here's liquor surpasses the streams of Parnassus,  
 The nectar ambrosia, on which gods regale ;  
 Experience will show it, nought makes a good poet,  
 Like *quantum sufficit* of Nottingham ale !\*

*Chorus*---Nottingham ale, &c.

That there is ale in Nottingham which merits the praise here bestowed upon it, is beyond dispute ; but the *universality* of its character is not so pure as formerly, owing to the heavy duty upon it, and the other imposts upon publicans, who are taxed more than proportionably, when compared with any other class of tradesmen ; and the frequent irksomeness of whose situation is ill compensated by the profits of their business. In London, Nottingham ale still retains its pristine character ; and were it not for the distance between the two places, and the almost unavoidable adulteration it receives on the road, much more of it would be sold in London than is at the present time. It is partly owing to the excellent quality of the coal in this neighbourhood, that Nottingham owes the superior flavor of its ale.

Three wholesale brewhouses have been erected here within the last twenty-four years ; but the strong prepossession of the inhabitants against what is termed *brewery ale* has rendered the projects abortive, as far as respects *local public-house consumption*, in the article of *ale* ; but, in the article of *porter* the case has been very different ; for the porter brewed by Deverill and Co. is equal to what is generally met with in London ; and, indeed it is superior to much of the city

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\* One verse is purposely omitted, on account of its immodesty.

beverage. From the year 1800, to 1804, the Newark brewers made a bold attempt to force their inferior liquor upon the inhabitants of this town, by means of purchasing all the public-houses, or the leases thereof, which they possibly could—the complaint against this measure became general; and the magistrates at length came to a determination of stopping the licences to such houses; and thus the monopolizing project ended in the discomfiture of the projectors.

The first wholesale brewhouse was opened in Goose-gate, in 1792, by Mr. Thomas Simpson; and, after about thirteen years pursuit in the concern he brought it to a close.\* The next wholesale brewhouse was erected on a most extensive scale, where now stands Poplar-place, and was opened in 1794, under the firm of Henry Green and Co. but the concern by no means answered the expectations of the wealthy part of the firm; and it was shortly given up. The third and last concern of this sort was opened in 1807, at the north end of the Leen-bridge, under the firm of Deverill and Co. and promises to be a lasting establishment; for, independently of the porter brewing, they do much in the brewing of ale, with which they serve many private houses both in town and country, and also many public-houses in the villages, at a less or a greater distance from the town.

### WOOLLEN CLOTH TRADE.

It is not a little singular that our best writers, on the subject of manufacturing of cloth, should insist that such and such countries are beholden to such and such other countries for the art thereof; and in particular that England is wholly indebted for it to our continental neighbours. This notion must have originated in inattention or ignorance, and have been followed merely from habit, or a fear of combating established prejudices; for, though it is very true that one nation has been beholden to others for many of the improvements in this, as in most other arts, it is not the less certain that the manufacturing of cloth may have been an indigenous invention of every people, distinct and abstracted in the original formation of society. To prove this, we have only to consult the natural faculties of the human mind.

When man, urged by the instinct of hunger, had killed an animal, whereon to satisfy his cravings, reason would instruct him that the *skin* would be a proper article to screen his body against the inclemency of the weather, as well from the resistance it would offer to his teeth, as from its pliability, and the facility with which he might separate it from the flesh—a stone ground against another stone till it had acquired an edge, would enable him to perform the latter operation, as well as that of shaping the skin into a garment. If it happened to be a sheep which he had slaughtered, the felting of the *wool*, by the heat and moisture exuding from his body, would display to him its superior utility, providing it could be converted into an extended substance, as the wearing the woolly side of the skin next his body would convince him of the nourishing quality of the wool. And the most trifling circumstance would convey to his imagination the ease with which

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\* About the year 1805, an ingenious mechanic of this town, of the name of Bywater, invented a machine for cloathing of windmill sails, while in motion, according to the power of the wind. For the furtherance of this invention Mr. Simpson found capital, as well as an addition of ingenuity; and the partners obtained his majesty's letters patent for the exclusive application of the discovery. They also obtained a patent for the rigging and unrigging of vessels at sea by the same means; and also one for giving additional facility in the weighing of ships' anchors; the whole of which produced more fame than profit to the patentees.



the harls or filaments, by giving them a twist, might be converted into yarn ; even an accidentally twisting of a few filaments together between his fingers and thumb would be sufficient ; while the intertwining of the twigs or briars of a bush, or the art with which he would discover that the birds of the air made their nests, would unfold, to his naturally inquiring fancy, the means whereby he might form the threads into cloth. Circumstances, equally simple, would instruct men in the art of making cloth of the hair of other animals, and the filaments of bark. Thus we see, that nature, in her most rude and infant state, would instruct mankind in the art of the manufacturing cloth, without one nation being indebted to another for the original contrivance.\*

This simple and natural view of the question considerably lessens the importance which is usually attached to the two Brabant weavers who settled in Yorkshire in 1331, and those that settled at Canterbury, Norwich, Sandwich, Colchester, Maidstone, and Southampton in 1567.—That these foreigners introduced many most useful improvements in the art of manufacturing cloth, there can be no doubt ; but that cloth was wrought in this country long before their arrival, we have the clearest proof, independently of the foregoing observations.

It is stated in the *Notitia Imperii* (as appears from the British Encyclopedia) that there was an imperial manufactory of woollen and linen cloth, for the use of the Roman army then in Britain, established at Venta Belgarum, now Winchester. And we have a very curious and substantial proof of the degree of perfection, which the art of weaving was at in this country during the seventh century. It is to be found in a book written by Aldhelm, bishop of Sherborne, on the subject of “virginity,” about the year 680, and is contained in a simile illustrative of chastity.† The bishop says, “chastity alone forms not a perfect character ; but requires to be accompanied “and beautified by other virtues. It is not a web of one uniform colour and texture, without any “variety of figures, that pleaseth the eye, and appears beautiful ; *but one that is woven by “shuttles, filled with threads of purple, and many other colours, flying from side to side, and “forming a variety of figures and images, in different compartments, with admirable art.”* Here is a proof, that figure-weaving, as well as the simple process of the art, was in use in England at that time ; or the bishop would not have so aptly applied it to the subject he was treating on.

King John, among other immunities secured to the people of Nottingham by his charter, dated the 19th of March, 1199, granted to the town a *merchant's guild*, to whom he gave the exclusive privilege of manufacturing dyed cloth, or cloth which was designed to receive a dye, within ten miles round the town. This proves that the business of manufacturing cloth had been carried on here before that time ; for the inhabitants of a town would scarcely be so extravagant as to solicit, or the monarch to grant them a charter for the enjoyment of a certain business, to which, and to

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\* Many most useful discoveries have been made by persons merely observing the simple operations of nature.—The use of a ship's rudder was discovered in consequence of a person's observing an eagle direct its course in the air by the motion of its tail. The first idea of a steam engine was conceived, from the steam in a kettle blowing off the lid. The discovery of electricity was occasioned by two globes of brimstone being accidentally brought into contact. To which we might add the invention of glass, gunpowder, and telescopes by accidental circumstance.

† The bishop died in 709, and the See of Sherborne, with that of Wilton, was translated to Salisbury about the middle of the eleventh century.

its utility, they were strangers. From the year 1347, in which Edward the Third took Calais, to 1558, in which, under Mary, it was wrested from the English, that city was the principal staple for the wool market; it being the centre point of communication between the English and Flemish merchants. It was during this period that the woollen trade was at its highest glory in Nottingham, by the means of which, Deering states, the following families, among others, to have risen to opulence and fame; namely, the *Bugges*, the *Binghams*, the *Willoughbies*, the *Tannesleys*, the *Mappurleys*, the *Thurlands*, the *Amyases*, the *Allestrees*, the *Samons*, the *Plumptres*, and the *Hunts*. But the surrender of Calais gave a stab to this trade, from the effects of which it never recovered.\* This business soon after gave way to that of

### SMITHS,

Such as blacksmith, whitesmiths, &c. which was partly owing to the plenty and excellency of the coal in this neighbourhood, partly to the unshackled encouragement given to the woollen trade in Yorkshire, and partly to a cause, which is interwoven with the independency of the human mind. The cloth trade being carried on by a company of merchants, that possessed exclusive privileges and the power of making bye-laws for the internal government of such trade, they would have the means of compelling the workmen to labour on principles alike inimical to their interest and independence, so long as no other employment offered itself to the notice of the latter; thereby producing a system, which, in point of practice, would be little better than that hateful feudalism, from which the working class had so lately emerged; while *Vulcan*, by introducing his anvil and hammer, the management of which would require but a comparatively small capital, would offer to the sons of industry a rivalry in execution and an independency of action, unknown to them before; and which they would not fail to embrace.

The anonymous author, so often quoted by Deering, resided here in the reigns of James the First and Charles the First, makes the following observations, when speaking of Bridlesmith-gate. "It was so called," says he, "by reason of the great number of smiths dwelling there, who made bitts, snaffles, and other articles for bridles, of which trade there are some still inhabiting this street, though the major part of them is now worn out by smiths of a rougher stamp, such as make plough-irons, coulter, shares, stroake and nayles, harrow teeth and the like, of which trade there are at this day such store in this street, and other parts of the town, as serve to furnish, not only the county of Nottingham, but divers other bordering shires, as Leicester, Rutland, and Lincoln." Smithy-row is, no doubt, one of the other places here alluded, as may be gathered from the name, as well as from the thick concretions of *smithy-slack* having been found of late, considerably below the present surface of the Market-place, when the earth has been removed for the purpose of buildings being erected, which the author hereof has seen and examined. The same author concludes, and in my opinion very justly, that Gridlesmith-gate (now Pelham-street,)

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\* Vout-hall, or Vault-hall, at the north-west corner of Drury-hill, where now stands the house of Mrs. Gawthorn, took its name from the vaults under it, in which the wool used to be stored, when the cloth manufacture was carried on in this town.

took its name from a provincial corruption of *girdle* into *gridle*; and therefore gave as his opinion, that this street had been inhabited by smiths who made girdles and their appendages.

Considering the period at which our anonymous author wrote his narrative, which, Deering states to be in 1641; and considering that the makers of light articles had nearly left the town, we may conclude that these businesses gradually retired, in the latter end of the sixteenth century, when Birmingham and Sheffield were taking the lead in the *Vulcanic* arts. Notwithstanding this, Nottingham continued to supply the neighbouring towns and counties with the rougher kind of materials, till almost every village could boast a smith of its own.\*

## FOUNDERIES.

In the *casting businesses* Nottingham has long held an eminent station, though they have never been carried on to an extent equal with what has been done at Birmingham, Rotherham, Chesterfield, &c. As may be seen by referring to the account of the benefactors to the Free-school, bell-casting was followed here at an early date; and the bell at St. James's church was cast by Hedderly as late as the year 1791, soon after which that person went to America, and the business has not been followed here since; except as small bells are cast by Mr. Tatham, at his *brass and cock* foundry at the corner house in Bridlesmith-gate, leading into Peter-gate: this business has been carried on in the town at least a century; and in the present premises about sixty years.†—This concern was previously settled in Castle-gate, a few yards above the meeting-house; at which time there was also another brass foundry in the same street, a little way above Jew-lane; but it was given up.

A small iron-foundry was erected in 1773, by Mr. Foljamb, in Narrow-marsh, which has given the name of *Iron-yard* to the spot. It has ceased to be worked several times, and has several times changed its masters; and is now in full use again. The iron-foundry erected in Granby-street, by Mr. Alderman Ashwell, in 1803, is a concern of considerable magnitude, which is worked by one of the most complete steam engines in the kingdom, of five-horse power.‡ Dispatch and execution of workmanship are found here, in an equal degree, to what are produced at any other foundry in the country. A few years after the commencement of this concern, Mr. Ashwell introduced brass-casting also, which is pursued with flattering success.

## TANNERS.

At what time the tanning business, which was founded on one of the earliest wants in society, was introduced into this town, is unknown, though, very probably, it was at an early stage of our history, from the great quantity of oak in the immediate vicinity of the town, the bark of which is still so essential to the production of the *tan*, notwithstanding the chymical improvements of M.

\* Framesmiths will be spoken of in another place.

† Mr. Tatham was the first to introduce *gas-light* into the town, which he did in the winter of 1814.

‡ In March, 1815, a person of the name of George Harrison was killed by the engine, at the moment he had clandestinely introduced himself, for the purpose of carrying to another foundry the improved application of its powers.

Seguin and others. And, there is little doubt but this business had its share in driving the cloth trade away, for the reason stated under the head "smiths." Deering has preserved the date of a transaction, which proves that the tanners possessed considerable influence, soon after the close of the fifteenth century. Our author says, (and of the truth of which there is no doubt) that, on the 18th of February, 1546, a deed was executed by the Corporation, on the one part, and the tanners on the other, whereby "the mayor and burgesses oblige themselves to William Sharpington, James "Mason, John Renell, John Gregorie, and Thomas Sibthorpe, tanners; to pay to them and their "successors, tanners of Nottingham, for ever, an annuity of forty shillings."

An opinion was very prevalent some years ago, and is not now wholly eradicated, that this money is paid as an acknowledgment by the Corporation to the tanners for an old building, on the south side of Narrow-marsh, called *Tanners'-hall*, as they had no occasion for it after their business fell to decay. The truth seems to be, that the Corporation originally made a grant of this stipend to provide an annual dinner for the tanners, as an inducement to them to form themselves into a company, that their business might thereby be kept in the town; and, as a further encouragement, the Corporation gave the company the use of the building in question, as a general storehouse for their goods, and as a place of general sale—hence its present name.\*

From an old manuscript book, lent me by the late Mr. John Henshaw, formerly a master tanner here, which contains the bye-laws of the trade, I will give the following extracts:—Extract the first:—"Anno Dom. 1646. Mr. John James, alderman, chosen masters of the tanners' trade; "John Townrow and Thomas Truman, wardens for the year. Monday after St. Andrew's-day, "we the company of tanners, being met according to custom, do order, that all apprentices that "are not free-born shall pay to the wardens of the trade, for their *recording*, five shillings; and "for their *upsets* ten shillings and sixpence. And we do also order, that such as are free-born of "the trade shall pay for their recording two shillings; and for their *upsets* six shillings and "eightpence."

Alderman James served the office of mayor this year, which shews that the tanners were then in high repute, or the chief magistrate would not have condescended to become their master in an association. At this time Alderman James was performing a still more conspicuous part—he was the principal enemy among the magistrates to the tyrant Charles the First, whose power was now nearly at an end.

Extract the second—"December 5, Anno Dom. 1664. It is this day ordered by the master and "wardens and company of tanners, that if any person of the said company, duly elected by the said "company, and chosen master for one year according to the annual custom, shall at any time "hereafter refuse to accept and execute the said master's office as usual, then every such person "or persons shall forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings, to be disposed of at the discretion of "the said company for their use"—subscribed by forty-seven master tanners.

In pursuance of the above order, William Fillingham paid the stipulated fine in 1716.

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\* This old building has been supposed to have been a court of justice: this opinion is erroneous, except as the assizes might be held in it when the plague raged in the town; and from which Narrow-marsh was free.

Extract the third—"September 8, Anno Dom. 1668. Upon a meeting of the company of tanners, at the master's house of the trade, Thomas Hardmeat, it was agreed and concluded upon that the particular persons, tanners, whose names are under-written, shall buy such proportion of hides affixed to their names under-written for a month next ensuing, under the penalty of forfeiting sixpence for every hide neglected to be bought, to be paid to the wardens of the trade for the present year; and it is intended that these hides shall be bought of the butchers of Nottingham. And it is ordered by the company under-written, that no tanner, nor journeyman, nor apprentice shall buy any hide, *kep*,\* or calf-skin, above the price of ninepence, nor tan them at any rate for them nor the fellmongers, under the penalty of such hide or skin so bought or tanned to be paid to the wardens for the promoting of the feast. It is further agreed, that he that brings in a hide to the *hill*,† shall have the privilege of buying it; or, if any other buy it he shall pay the first chapman one shilling."

[These resolutions were signed by twenty-five masters, and the number of hides to be bought was affixed to each name. Indeed it appears, that none but masters were considered as belonging to the company.]

"It is agreed and concluded upon by the tanners above-said, that he that buys any hide or hides of the butchers at their houses or slaughter-houses in the week-day (if it can be proved by any two persons of the same trade,) shall forfeit two shillings and sixpence for every hide so bought to the wardens of the trade for the year."

It appears pretty evident that some difference had existed between the tanners and butchers respecting the mode of conducting the sale of hides, &c. and that the above resolutions among the former were the consequence or the cause of a reconciliation. But it is not so easy to conceive why the tanners enjoined, that they should give only ninepence for a hide, &c. while with the same breath they awarded a shilling to a person who might have a hide or skin bought out of his hands.

In 1672, it was agreed by the company, that any person who bought a hide within six miles of Nottingham, except in the open market, should forfeit five shillings for every hide so bought.

Extract the fourth—"Anno Dom. 1744. Memorandum. The mayor and burgesses this year first refused to make good their ancient payment to the company of tanners."

From this time the company received only twenty shillings a year from the Corporation, nor is the circumstance afterwards noticed in their book. Indeed their number appears to have been rapidly on the decline, which naturally lessened their consequence; for, their number had risen from 36 to 47 between the years 1641 and 1664; yet at the end of the four succeeding years it was reduced to 25. From this time to 1701, the declension had been but small, as in that year there were 21 masters; while in 1750, only three remained; and during the last ten years, or thereabouts, there has been but one. Therefore this company must now be considered as at an end, since it is impossible for one master to form a company; yet, the three or four journeymen, along with a few fellmongers of the same class, continued till very lately to keep up

\* *Kep*, means the skin of a calf that dies in its second year.

† It appears to have been Beastmarket-hill where the hides, &c. were exhibited for sale; as I find in another place in this old manuscript, an account of business being done near the top of the Corn-market.

the annual feast with the money paid by the Corporation. And, it is not a little singular that, in 1812, when Mr. Thomas Roberts, the present and only master tanner in the town, applied for the annual stipend, the Corporation, unsolicited, gave him the old allowance of forty shillings, and continue to pay that sum, notwithstanding only twenty shillings had been paid during so many years ; and it is now divided by Mr. Roberts among his journeymen, without attending to the old custom of holding a feast. The tanners kept up the old farce of electing a master till the year 1808, when the late Mr. Henshaw, then out of the business, thinking himself the only *legitimate offspring* of the trade, and considering it a degradation to be elected to the office by fellmongers, not only refused to attend the annual feast, at which time the officers used to be chosen, but withheld the book, that no *sham* master might be recorded. Thus the very shadow, as well as the substance of the company vanished.

The tanners, like many more of Adam's sons, on whom fortune has sometimes lavished her favors, were made giddy and overhearing by prosperity. In 1661, they began to shackle the trade by combining to prevent each other from taking apprentices, except on extravagant conditions ; a system which is sure in the end to injure the business it is erroneously intended to protect ; because nature is regular in her proceedings, and therefore requires a succession of youth to fill up the chasms occasioned by incidents, old age, and death.\* The tanners likewise by combining to keep down the price of hides, skins, and bark, drove the owners thereof to seek other markets ; and thus completed the ruin of their trade in this town, while they vainly fancied they were securing the golden fleece of Colchis.

From the great number of *horn snuffs* and old vats which have been frequently found, it is pretty evident, that near the whole of the ground between Turncalf-alley and Bridge-street, has been occupied by tanners and fellmongers, the vats appertaining to both. Deering conjectured, and no doubt rightly, that the tanning business had been carried on, on the east side of St. Peter's-churchyard, there being visible marks of the fact in his time, in a house then occupied by a Mr. Coates, attorney-at-law, at the lower end of Pepper-street, and now the property of the Rev. Dr. Staunton. And, in lately examining the premises of Mr. Tatham, brass-founder, which lead down Peter-gate, I found tan vats and other necessary appendages for carrying on the tanning business.

In 1769, William Henshaw and William Haigh were chosen wardens ; since which time none have been elected to that office ; the latter of whom was the last that paid a fee as an upset, which was in 1766. And in 1739, Ralph Peet paid the last fee which was ever paid for recording an apprentice. It was customary likewise, till 1769, for the company to have a *sealer*, whose duty it was to examine all tanned goods, and declare them fit, or unfit for the market. And, as he was likely rather to be a bar to their rapacity than a guarantee to their imaginary benefit, which seems to have centered in a short-sighted policy, it is a wonder that they employed one so long.—Thomas Radforth was the last person who held this office. This subject naturally leads to an

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\* The plan of apprenticing in Lancashire, which has been so injurious to the calico printers, is excepted against in the above allusion ; because it is alike at variance with nature's laws and with uprightness in human policy.

inquiry into the practice now in use of examining and marking every hide, skin, or pelt by public *sealers*, or *inspectors*, before they are sold to the tanners and fellmongers.

In 1604, the second of James the First, an act was passed to regulate the conduct of butchers, tanners, curriers, fellmongers, and shoemakers, as far as the public interest was concerned in the use of hides, skins, and pelts; and to prevent horse-leather from being used by shoemakers. But, by the granting of a patent for converting horse-leather into boot legs (known by the name of *cordovan*,) one essential part of the act became perverted; and the remainder was suffered, by common consent, to lie at rest. In process of time, however, an evil sprung up which called aloud for public interference. The butchers, by their careless and avaricious conduct, rendered the hides, &c. of far less value than they ought to be: they not only flayed the carcases down to the hoof, and thereby added too much of the *shank* to the hide, but they frequently gashed the hides, &c. so much in the act of flaying, as to render them of comparatively little value; which, besides casting a dead loss upon the shoemakers (they buying their ware by weight,) was a serious loss to society at large. In consequence of which the shoemakers, aided, I believe, by the curriers and saddlers, petitioned parliament, in 1800, for a redress of grievances, and obtained an act to that effect. But that being found deficient, they again petitioned in 1801, when another act was obtained, which answered their expectations,

This act enjoins the chief magistrate, or head officer of any city, town corporate, borough, &c. to point out a proper place or places, wherein shall be examined and inspected, on proper days, all the raw hides or skins of oxen, bulls, cows, heifers, steers or stirks, calves, hogs or pigs, sheep, lambs, horses, mares, and geldings, killed, slaughtered, or flayed within such city, &c. and all such hides, &c. which are brought to be disposed of at such place or places. The act also provides that the shoemakers and others engaged in leather businesses shall send a list of the names of persons, from among whom they wish the public inspectors to be chosen, to the chief magistrate; and the latter is enjoined to select such inspector or inspectors from such list; to whom he afterwards administers the following oath—"I, A. B. do swear, that I will faithfully and diligently "execute the office of inspector of hides and skins, according to the true intent and meaning of an "act passed in the fortieth year, &c. intituled, &c. without fear or affection, prejudice, or malice, to "any person whomsoever; so help me God."

The inspectors here are Robert Lineker, a shoemaker, and John Bailey, a fellmonger; and the place directed by the magistrates for the examination of hides, &c. is a small distance above the fish-stalls on the north side of the Market-place. They are compelled to have two stamps each; viz. one with the letter *S.* denoting *sound*, and the other with the letter *D.* denoting *damaged*. When they have examined the hides, &c. they stamp them near the tail with that stamp, which, in their opinion, the quality of the articles requires; and if the articles be damaged the law authorizes them to levy the following penalties upon the owners:—For gashing or otherwise injuring, in the act of flaying the hide of an ox, bull, cow, heifer, or stirk, or for flaying the carcase of such animals more than two inches below the knee, five shillings—for the skin of a calf, and the hide of a horse, two shillings and sixpence; and for the skin of a sheep, lamb, or hog, sixpence. The magistrates and inspectors have the power of mitigating these penalties as they may consider

circumstances to require.—For their trouble the inspectors are entitled to one penny for the hide of an ox, bull, cow, heifer, stirk, horse, mare, and gelding; for every calf, and hog skin a halfpenny; and for every sheep and lamb skin a farthing.

### ***THE CURRIERS AND FELLMONGERS,***

There is little doubt, may boast an antiquity in this town equal to that of the tanners; but their numbers do not appear ever to have been great. In 1641, there were nine master fellmongers, and six master curriers—in 1739, there were only two of the former, and four of the latter. And, at the present time, there are six curriers and four fellmongers, with one of the latter at Lenton, who may be classed with his fellows in this town.

### ***SHOEMAKERS.***

“The Tablet of Memory” gives the incorporation of the cordwainers’ company in the year 1410, while the “Picture of London” for 1803, gives the date a century later—an error in the press has probably occasioned the difference. As the influence attached to incorporated companies was very considerable, and continued so till within the last century; and as we know the Nottingham company of cordwainers is of long standing, we may therefore infer that the master shoemakers here were not long ere they followed the example of their metropolitan brethren, particularly as the Corporation of Nottingham, for a small annual stipend, were ready to second their views. Accordingly a company was formed here, the principal conditions in whose union were, to prohibit any journeyman from being employed that had not served an apprenticeship to a master belonging to some company; and to prevent any master from setting up in the town, or keeping a stall in the market that did not belong to the Nottingham company. To give to this combination the appearance of legal authority, the company paid the Corporation twenty shillings a year, in consideration of which that body sanctioned them in the maintenance of their exclusive privileges. And thus things continued till about the year 1747, when a master shoemaker of the name of Hancock refused to enter the company—a trial at law was the consequence, and the company was cast, and consequently lost all authority. Another conflict between clashing interests now ensued: the Corporation still demanded their annual tribute, which the shoemakers refused to pay, because the former had lost the power of protecting them. The officers of the company used to consist of four masters, two stewards, and two wardens, the latter always paying the Corporation their fee; but, after Hancock had cast the company, no more wardens were elected, that the Corporation might not have any one to fix their claim upon. A member of the company, of the name of Hart, had some property seized upon for the tribute; but, as I am informed, the Corporation yielded without the question being brought into court; and thus this paltry dispute had an end.

The company is still in existence, though it consists of only five members, four of whom are elected masters, and the other a steward; and they hold their annual feast on the 5th of November, or old St. Crispin’s-day. When in their time of prosperity, they bought a plot of ground, containing about an acre, near Kennel-hill, which the members of the company still possess, and which is called *Shoemakers’-close*.



**BONE-LACE.\***

This article, which is likewise called *bobbin-lace*, had long been manufactured in this town to a considerable amount till it was superseded by the different branches of business attending the framework-knitting trade, such as winding, seaming, sizing, and chevining, which drove the bone-lace manufacture away. Buckingham and Northampton, with their connective counties, are the principal seats of this business in England; though the wives of militia-men belonging to those counties have a good deal scattered the art about the country by following the fortunes of their husbands within the last twenty years; and even in this town we find a few *cushions* again in use. It is worthy of remark, that an ounce of Flanders thread, when manufactured into lace, has been sold in London for £40. Here the folly and ingratitude of the British ladies are conspicuous—they encourage foreign artizans, while those of our own country can produce articles of a similar quality and possessing superior beauty to those imported of a corresponding description, and which can be sold for less than a tenth of their cost, while our own artizans and their families are often starving for want of employment.

We are now about entering upon the description of a branch of business the most important to Nottingham of any which was ever carried on within it confines; and, to a Nottingham man, it is unnecessary to say we mean the

**FRAMEWORK-KNITTING BRANCH.**

Indeed, so much is this town dependent upon the engine, known by the name of the stocking frame, and its appendant machines, that, if it stood still, all other businesses must stand still also. The town may in fact be compared to one vast engine, whose every part is kept in motion by this masterpiece in the mechanic arts.

The inventor of this curious and complicated piece of machinery, which, in many instances, consists of more than six thousand parts, was one William Lee, M. A. of St. John's college, Cambridge, and was heir to a small freehold estate in Woodborough, the place of his nativity, which lies about seven miles from Nottingham. Mr. Lee being deeply smitten with the charms of a captivating young woman of this village, he paid his addresses to her in an honorable way; but, whenever he waited upon her she seemed much more intent upon knitting stockings and instructing pupils in the art thereof, than upon the caresses and assiduities of her suitor; he therefore determined, if possible, to mar the prospect of her knitting, under an idea, no doubt, of thereby inducing her to change that for one more congenial with his views. The former part of his project Mr. Lee accomplished in the year 1589, by the invention of an *engine* or *frame* for the knitting of stockings, which possesses six times the speed of the original mode, and which has admitted of an almost endless variety of substantial and fancy articles being wrought upon it. After the accomplishment of so great an undertaking, it seems other notions than those of gaining the fair

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\* Bone-lace is so called either from the bobbins which are used in its formation being generally made of *bone*, or from the French word *bon*, which signifies good, excellent, &c. the article being originally made in France.

and fickle object of his former pursuit attached themselves to the mind of Mr. Lee—ambitious of being the inventor of so useful a machine, he immediately adopted measures which appeared to him the most likely to secure wealth and future fame.\*

The known partiality of Queen Elizabeth for knitted silk stockings, which she had worn since the year 1560, would naturally induce Mr. Lee to think that the production of an article so superior in quality, and wrought with such superior facility, could not fail to procure the royal patronage as a reward for his invention : an idea which every speculative genius is justified in fostering ; but which many have fostered in vain. Flushed with this honorable expectation, Mr. Lee hastened to London, presented his *frame* to the Queen, and worked in it in her presence. But, whether she was too much engaged in enjoying her triumph over the Spanish Armada, or in dalliance with, and in cajoling her different admirers, cannot now be determined ; this, however is certain—she treated Mr. Lee and his invention with neglect, if not with contempt. Stung with the ingratitude of his sovereign, and meeting with no better treatment from his countrymen in general, he therefore sought encouragement at Roan in Normandy, under the protection of the celebrated Henry the Fourth of France. Here, with nine frames and so many workmen that accompanied his fortunes, he met with the encouragement of an enlightened monarch and an applauding nation ; but misfortune, the usual attendant on merit, was determined to haunt him through all his earthly pursuits. The stroke of an assassin, which brought the good King Henry to the grave, made way for the misrule of Louis the Thirteenth, whose bigotry and persecution swallowed up every virtue, which beamed in the court of Henry, and, consequently, every encouragement which the latter had given to the mechanic arts. Mr. Lee, finding himself neglected at Roan, applied at the foot of the royal fountain in Paris ; but the streams of that fountain were stopped when merit applied for aid ; therefore he met nothing in his application but disappointment and chagrine. Finding his merits thus neglected both at home and abroad, he gave up his mind to the empire of grief, which soon gave him rest from his sufferings in the grave. Seven of his workmen, with their frames, returned to England, leaving two behind at Roan with theirs. Thus England owes the return of this useful art, to the hand of an assassin and the ignorance of the French king, after her ingratitude had driven it away.

One Aston, of Thoroton in this county, having been taught the art of framework-knitting by Mr. Lee, before the latter left this country, and, being a person of considerable genius, had retained a tolerably correct knowledge of the frame, notwithstanding he had followed the business of a miller during the time his fellow workmen had been in France ; and, still having a desire to further the invention, he joined the workmen on their return ; and they, in conjunction, soon

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\* Tradition informs us, that the first frame was almost wholly made of wood—that it was a twelve gauge—that there were no lead sinkers : and that the needles were stuck in bits of wood. We are likewise told, that the difficulty Lee met with in the formation of the stitch for want of needle-eyes, had nearly prevented the accomplishment of his object, which difficulty was at length removed by his forming eyes to his needles with a three-square file. We have information too, handed in direct succession from father to son, that it was not till late in the seventeenth century that one man could manage the working of a frame : the man who was considered the workman, employed a labourer, who stood behind the frame to work the slur and pressing motions ; but the application of traddles and of the feet, rendered the labourer unnecessary.

restored the disorganized frames to a working state. But whether they carried on the business in Nottingham, or in what other part of the county thereof, is uncertain : probably, after they had brought the frames to a tolerable state of perfection, they sought different directions, according to their several inclinations and views. It appears certain, however from the information handed to us by Deering, that there were but two stocking frames in Nottingham in 1641 ; nor was the increase very great during the next hundred years, as appears from the following state of the trade in 1739 :—

Framework-knitters	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Framesmiths	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Needlemakers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Setters-up	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sinkermakers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5

At this period we find none ranked in the profession of a hosier ; consequently we have a right to conclude that the business of a hosier had not then assumed a distinct shape ; and also that every framework-knitter disposed of his own goods in the best manner he could. This will account for the slowness of the progress made by the trade during the period alluded to ; for it is very unlikely that any serious number of workmen would be able to furnish themselves with frames to work in, and then have to depend upon the precariousness of a sale for subsistence for their families.

For a considerable time after the revival of this important art in England, its principal nursery was London, which was partly occasioned by a want of country hosiers, and partly by the rage in those days for what was called *fashion work* : the custom then being to wear stockings of the same colour as the other outward garments, which caused a continual demand for small and immediate orders. But when this custom declined, and country hosiers began to exert themselves, the London dealers found their account in depending upon the country manufacturers for supplies. Hence it is that, within the last sixty years, the manufacturing of stockings in London has been on the decline, while in those places more congenial to the interest of the trade, it has been more rapidly on the increase. So that, at the present time, a few fancy frames and those used as *decoy ducks* in retail shops, are nearly all which the metropolis can boast of.

Shortly after the return of Mr. Lee's workmen from France, the Venetian ambassador in London engaged one Henry Mead, for £500 to go to Venice and take a frame with him, for the purpose of establishing the framework-knitting art in that country ; but it appears that Mead had not merit equal to the expectations of his employer, for the project failed for want of mechanics to keep the frame in a working state ; in consequence of which it was sent back to England for sale, along with some wretched Venetian imitations. An attempt was also made by one Abraham Jones to carry the invention to Holland ; and, the ingenuity of the adventurer, in all probability, would have enabled him to carry his scheme into execution, had not the plague, which then raged with violence in the low countries, hurried him and his connections to the grave. His frame was afterwards sent to London for sale.

In the hope of preventing a recurrence of these dangers to the country's interest, in this now much-sought-after business, and likewise to guarantee it against the mischiefs arising from persons being engaged in it that had not served an apprenticeship to the trade, and thereby, for want of

experience, introducing badly wrought articles into the market, to the manifest discredit of the rest, the framework-knitters in London petitioned Oliver Cromwell, as protector of the commonwealth of England, to grant them a charter, and to constitute them a legal company. This petition was complied with; but, whether the granted instrument was thought insufficient, in its regulating and guaranteeing powers, or whether the company thus constituted, thought a charter from Cromwell improper to be acted upon after the restoration, we are not informed; be this however as it may, the company petitioned Charles the Second, soon after he obtained the diadem, for a constituting charter, which was granted them in 1664, and which incorporated them under the name of "The Worshipful Company of Framework-knitters;" to be governed by a master, wardens, and assistants, who are directed to be chosen annually on the 24th of June. These officers had power vested in them by virtue of the charter, to make bye-laws from time to time for the government of the trade, as, in their estimation, its interests might require; which bye-laws, if signed by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice of the court of King's Bench, and the Chief Justice of the court of Common Pleas, are valid in point of law, if not in direct opposition to the statute law of the land, or when they run counter to the interest of the country; the latter question being left to the decision of a jury.\* The body of bye-laws now in existence was framed in 1745, and was signed by Philip, Lord Hardwick, Lord Chancellor, by Sir William Lee, Knt. Lord Chief Justice, and Sir John Willes, Knt. Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

Deering, when speaking of the framework-knitters' company, has the following remarks:—"In process of time, when the trade spread further into the country, they also in proportion stretched their authority, and established commissioners in the several principal towns in the country where this trade was exercised; there they held courts at which they obliged the country framework-knitters to bind and make free, &c. whereby they for many years drew great sums of money, till some person of more spirit than others in Nottingham brought their authority in question, and a trial ensuing, the company was cast, since which time the stocking manufacture has continued entirely open in this country"

The want of date, and the disingenuous manner in which the above paragraph is written, have left the reader's mind in doubt, as to the nature and consequences of that trial, particularly when he considers the subsequent conduct of the company. It would be fair however to conclude, from our author's statement, that no circumstance had taken place from the time of the trial to that in which he wrote, by which the validity of the charter had been ascertained. But, by recurring to recorded facts the truth will best appear. In an old printed document, referred to in the last note, entitled, "Case of the Framework-knitters," we find the following:—"Some short time before the year 1734, a dispute arose between the members of the company in London and some manufacturers in Nottingham, which occasioned a law suit; but the merits of the question in that suit were not fully tried; the company being nonsuited for want of legal form in the

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\* It is the duty of these great law officers to give notice to chartered companies, if an act of parliament be in agitation inimical to their interests.

Deering says that Cromwell refused to grant a charter to the framework-knitters; but here our antiquary is mistaken, for I have a printed document by me which proves to the contrary.

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“bye-laws produced at the trial, which appeared to be confirmed by the Chancellor and Judges, but could not be proved to be the act of the company, which was the reason the court did not try the merits. The result of this dispute was, that the artists in the country were for having the bye-laws amended, and till that was done, would not comply therewith; nor could the company get any deputies to act for them in the country.”

Here then we see that the merits of the charter were not tried; and that it was the incongruity of the bye-laws, which brought on the dispute. Notwithstanding this however, as a new code of bye-laws was not formed till 1745, it is no wonder if so long a lapse of time brought the charter into disuse in the country; though the sanction of those bye-laws by the three greatest law authorities in the nation, about twelve years after the trial, proves that the validity of the charter was then considered as unshaken.

We are now arrived at a period in the history of these affairs in which the company and the trade at large may be considered in different points of view—the company may be compared to a man in the decline of life that principally depends upon the toil of others for support, and whose every effort serves to betray his own weakness; while the trade may be likened to a blooming youth that has just learnt the value of his own strength, and who considers every farthing drawn from his toil, under pretence of supporting him, as an unjust tax upon his industry. The company now endeavoured to enforce payment from the country workmen, finding that persuasion and low cunning had lost their effect; and the trade threatened them with annihilation if they persevered. In 1751, the company commenced actions against two workmen at Godalmin for not paying their quarterage; and the trade threatened, if they proceeded in the actions, to apply to parliament for an act to unshackle it from the company's trammels and break up their body—the company took the hint, and let the matter drop; and the trade found its advantage in their imbecility.

Various attempts have been made since that time to restore to the charter its pristine authority, under the idea of stopping *colts*\* from working at the business, who, it is contended, have been the cause of many goods being introduced into the market of an inferior quality, from their not possessing a competent knowledge of the art. Without entering into the merits of this question, which in truth do not belong to history, the reader may rest assured that the charter, as far as respects the prosperity of the trade, is for ever laid at rest.

In 1805, a most extensive association was formed among the framework-knitters of Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester, and their respective counties, where the business is principally carried on, for the purpose of raising money to enable the company to prosecute a man of the name of Payne, of Burbage, in Leicestershire, for following the business and learning others without his having served an apprenticeship, on the issue of which prosecution the future prospects of thousands, similarly circumstanced, depended. Payne was supported by the Leicester and Leicestershire hosiers, who, being the principal manufacturers of coarse and inferior goods, felt themselves peculiarly interested in pushing the trade among those workmen that, from their little knowledge of the art, were the least likely to contend for regulated prices, and for properly fashioning the

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\* A name given to persons that work at the business who have not served a regular apprenticeship to it.

goods. After a world of litigation and expense on both sides, the matter was brought to a final hearing in Westminster-hall, in February, 1809, *when, though the charter was admitted to be as good in law as other charters of a like description, it was forbidden to be put in force, any further than as relates to the internal government of the company, such as chusing masters, wardens, &c. ; and for the purpose of spending the money-which the members of the company may think well to contribute ; providing such money is not applied to purposes contrary to the statute law of the land.\**

As a proof that the legislature has thought the framework-knitting business of some importance in its own abstracted merits, we have only to mention the act passed in the 7th and 8th of William and Mary, which inflicts a penalty of forty pounds, with the loss of the frame, upon any person caught in the act of sending one to a foreign country: In 1766, an act, commonly called the *Tewksbury act*, was passed, the object of which was to prevent the fraudulent marking of framework-knitted goods ; a practice having been long pursued by some hosiers of ordering their workmen to mark the goods with more *oilet-holes* than corresponded with the number of threads in the material of which such goods were made, except those wrought of silk ; and except such goods were wrought of a material of less than three threads. But the salutary provisions of this act are now rendered nugatory by flaxen stockings being nearly disused, and by the invention of machinery to spin cotton and worsted yarn, which, generally speaking, renders more than two threads unnecessary. In the 28th of his present majesty, an act was passed which constituted it felony to break or wilfully injure a stocking frame ; and it likewise directs that the holder of a frame shall give it up to the owner after he has received from the latter “the customary and usual notice ;” which customary and usual notice, from long established practice, consists of *fourteen days*. In consequence of the crime of frame-breaking being so extensively pursued in 1811, an act was passed which made it death to break or wilfully injure a stocking or lace frame, or the machines thereunto appended ; but this was shortly superceded by another, which placed stocking, lace, and other frames under one common protection, and reduced the crime of breaking them to the punishment of transportation, according to the act of the 28th of the king.

It is unnecessary to enter into a particular description of the various and numerous parts which constitute a stocking frame, since it is not like those productions of fancy, whose existence may be measured by a month, and a description of whose component parts might gratify idle curiosity during an hour. No, the *frame* is the offspring of profound genius and nice discrimination, has been brought to its present high state of perfection by the united talents of many ; and is become a staple article in the complex system of our national manufactories, as well as a great supporter

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\* As a proof of the folly of working men being persuaded by attornies to expend their money on such occasions, I will relate the following circumstance :—Being in London on some public business, along with Mr. German Waterfall, shortly after the above question was decided, we called on Mr. Laudington, the company's solicitor, to make some inquiries about the business, when he complimented the people of Nottingham for their superior penetration and understanding, in consequence of their backwardness in paying contributions in supporting the company on this occasion, because, considering the altered state of trade from the time the charter was granted, *the cause was hopeless* ; notwithstanding this very man had used his influence to persuade them to contribute while the trial was pending, from an opinion given on his part that they would be ultimately successful. Mr. Laudington received about £300 !!

of our prosperity and fame ; nor will it ever be laid aside so long as stockings, and a great variety of other articles of dress, are considered necessary to the customs of society. But with respect to a description of the various additions to the stocking frame, the case is otherwise, some of which are nearly forgotten, and others may share the same fate ; therefore of them a more particular description should be given. Deering states, that, in his time, no essential article had been added to the original machine ; the last sixty years, however, have made ample amends for the lack of early invention. And, it is worthy of remark that almost every improvement which this complicated piece of workmanship has received, has owed its birth to the genius of Nottingham or its neighbourhood. To be able to do justice to the memory of every one that has made discoveries and applied them to the stocking frame, would be highly gratifying ; but this is impossible, since almost every invention has had several claimants. Where the claim stands supported, however, by fair testimony, the name of the inventor shall be duly honored.

### ***TUCK RIBS.***

The additional machine for producing this work, consists of a *tucker-presser*, and was first known in Nottingham about the year 1756.\* Some people pretend that we owe its origin to the brain of an Irishman in Dublin, while others assert that the invention came from a French refugee in London ; but, as we have no direct authority in support of either of these claims, it is very probable that the name of the inventor will never be known.

The simplicity of the tuck-presser, and the numerous and diversified patterns which can be produced by its means, renders its invention far more admirable : it consists merely of a thin bar of iron attached by screws to the frame presser, so as to admit of its being moved *to* and *fro*, the space of one, two, or three needles, according to the pattern required ; there being grooves cut in the lower edge to admit of the needle or needles passing up, during the pressing motion, on which the tuck loops are wrought, while the teeth press down the other needle-beards to admit of the stitches passing over the needle-heads. And thus by moving it *this* way one course and *that* way another, while different coloured threads are worked, a diversity of shades is produced in a straight-down line, which gives to the stocking the appearance of party-coloured ribs. This kind of stockings is now out of fashion, but the tuck-presser has been applied to the manufacturing of other articles, as will be seen in the course of this chapter.

### ***DERBY RIBS.***

Long before the invention of the stocking frame, our fair knitters had introduced the plan of reversing the stitches in straight lines down the stocking ; and, from the wales thus reversed lying lower than those knitted in the ordinary way, the stockings so knitted were called *ribs*. Hence sprang a desire in the breast of many of those engaged in the framework-knitting business to produce an imitation. In this the tuck ribs failed, as they bore no resemblance to the original ribs,

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\* That part of the frame called a *presser* might more properly be called a *pressing-bar* ; but the former phrase is preferred because it is universally adopted by the trade.

except in their different shades. The practice of making *turned clocks* in plain stockings first suggested the plan of making, what have since been called Derby ribs ; and, indeed, many plain stockings were actually converted into ribs, by the tedious process of letting down alternate stitches, and turning them up on the rough side of the stocking, long before the invention of the rib machine \*

In this, as in almost every other invention, public opinion has been divided respecting the object on whom to confer the honor : an old stocking-maker of the name of Bowman, who resided at Dale-Abbey, it has been said by many, was the original projector of this machine ; but, knowing that the claim was a divided one, I wrote to William Strutt, Esq., of Derby, on the subject, and from whose answer I will give the following extract :—" It was Jedediah Strutt, my father, who " invented the Derby Rib machine, in the year 1758, or thereabouts. About that time he settled " in Derby for the purpose of carrying on the manufacture of ribbed stockings in conjunction " with his brother-in-law, Mr. W. Woollett, who was then a hosier, in that place, and which " partnership continued till the death of my father in the year 1797. A great part of the time " during which the patent was in force, Mr. Samuel Need of Nottingham was a partner, under " the firm of Need, Strutt, and Woollett. The patent right was tried twice in Westminster " Hall ; first with the hosiers of Derby, and afterwards with those of Nottingham, from which " time it was enjoyed quietly to the end of the term." Mr. Strutt did not give me the date of the patent, which I understand was in 1759 ; and common justice demands me to say, that, next to Mr. Lee himself, the country owes more to Mr. Strutt, the inventor, than to any other man that ever engaged in the framework-knitting or hosiery businesses, as from the application of his machine, the invention of every other machine, which has been appended to the stocking frame since that time, has progressively emanated. And from this slender, though fortunate beginning of an industrious and an ingenious workman (for I understand Mr. Strutt was a wheelwright,) have several most extensive fortunes been realized ; and, what is still more honorable, the names of the Strutts, as patriots, stand second to none in the kingdom.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE DERBY RIB MACHINE.

The *sole-bar* of the machine being screwed lengthwise upon that part of the frame woodwork called a *rafter*, along with a *standard* at each end of it, the *lower arms*, which range horizontally, with a bar between them to keep them steady and separate, are fixed upon the pivot ends of two *centre-screws* which pass through the standards in a direction approaching each other. The lower arms, about seven inches long, present their ends towards the workman, while the *upper arms*, about nine inches long, are attached to them by means of compact joints : these arms being ranged in an inclined position against the frame hand-bar, to answer the movements they have to perform, have the *lead-bar* hung between them on *centres* near the top. Thus three rolling motions, which operate in different directions, are obtained by the same means. The *leads*, which

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\* A stocking-maker of the name of Wright at Ilkiston, in Derbyshire, about 1730, made a pair of ribs this way, and sold them to a tinker for half-a-guinea.



are each an inch broad, and into the upper end of which the needles are cast, are screwed to the lead-bar; and by putting the machine in motion, the needles are made to pass backwards and forwards between the needles in the frame, the latter ranging in an horizontal, and the former in an upright direction; and when there are as many needles in the machine as there are in the frame, a stocking is produced called a *one and one rib*. If there be two needles in the frame for one in the machine, the stocking is called a *two and one rib*. There are some which have from four to twenty frame needles, and from two to sixteen machine needles working alternately and distinctly in those particular numbers: and the stocking so produced is called a *broad rib*.

Upon the top edge of the lead-bar, and behind the leads, is a thin plate of iron called a *slide*, which the workman pushes up with his fore fingers in order to force the stitches over the needle heads when the machine course is pressed; there being an additional presser, with a curved edge, screwed to the frame presser, which acts upon the machine needles by a second motion of the foot. And, when any rib is made broader than a *two and one*, the pressing motion is used three times in one course—once for the frame and once for the machine, for the completion of the stitches, and once to press the stitches off those frame needles which are connected with them in the act of gathering the loops, and which have short beards for that purpose. Hence the broad ribbed stockings are called by the workmen *press-off ribs*. The machine, in its working position, is too high, when the frame is *over the arch*, to admit of the jacks falling sufficiently low, except the sinker arches fall upon the needle heads. To remedy this inconveniency a *spring catch*, fastened to the rafter, confines it down, from which it is disengaged at a proper time by a lever, called a *knee-kick*\* striking against the spring-catch; and it is then raised by a mainspring to a proper height, where it is stopt by a regulating *star-screw*, which is affixed to the top of the spring-catch. There are likewise two articles called *thumb-plates*, by the leverage power of which, the workman holds the machine in a forward position while he presses the machine course. This well-finished combination of parts and motions, required an extensive mechanical genius for its accomplishment; and if Mr. Strutt really received some original hints in the business, which is not improbable, as he was not himself a stocking-maker, yet that is no detracting to his merit.

The first addition to this excellent piece of workmanship was an instrument called a *hand-shackle*, which was applied to the purpose of putting up the slide, without the workman being necessitated to apply his fingers to that article as above stated. The reader will discover the form of the hand-shackle by figuring to himself two light angular instruments, connected by an iron rod, with circular joints in the curve of each to admit of their extremities being extended or contracted; the lower limbs of the angular instruments being considered much shorter than the upper ones. Now by affixing the ends of the lower limbs upon pivots to the elbow-joints of the machine, and the ends of the upper limbs to the ends of the slide, the workman, by grappling the connecting rod along with a fixed one, which passed from arm to arm of the machine, could thereby raise up his slide.

Though this contrivance added little or nothing to the workman's speed, yet it gave him a certain degree of ease, and it furnished the idea of a superior discovery for the same purpose, since called

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\* So called from the early practice of pushing it up with the knee: it is now put in motion by means of a pulley affixed to the presser.

a *foot-shackle*, and which is still in universal use. This consists of a kind of compound leverage, the centre movement of which rolls upon its own axis in the star-boxes at the top of the frame. Across this rolling bar, two levers are fastened, the front ends of which are connected with the ends of the slide by means of small links; while to the back ends, wires are hung which reach down to a *foot-paddle*, the axle of which rolls in thimbles, which are driven into, or otherwise fastened to the foot-piece of the frame. Thus while the workman uses one foot to press the machine course, he applies the heel of the other to draw up his slide.

Fancy stockings, called *royal ribs*, used to be made upon the Derby rib machine. The workman, by making a course of blue cotton and one of white alternately, and by pressing the stitches over on the machine needles only every other course, produced a stocking with a clear blue rib and a white ground. This, however, can only be done on a frame calculated to make the *one and one rib*.\*

### OILET-HOLE WORK.

Common fame ascribes the invention of the first machine to make this work to one Betts of Mansfield; but we should not be adding much to the interest of society or to the character of the inventor by inquiring further into the business, since the machine itself was little else than an unity of the principal parts and movements of the tuck presser and the Derby-rib machine; and further, it was shortly superceded by one far more proper for the purpose. But, notwithstanding this, Mr. John Morris of Nottingham obtained a patent both for the machine and *the work*, about the year 1763.

To make this work, according to Mr. Morris's specifications, the tuck-presser was used to enable the workman to bring those stitches in a proper state to the needle-heads which were intended to be shifted, in order to make the holes. The stitches were shifted by short pointed *ticklers*, which, being cast in leads in the usual manner, were fastened to the tickler-bar, which passed from arm to arm of the machine, and moved in the same manner as the needle bar of the Derby-rib machine, with this addition:—in the working motions it was raised horizontally for the purpose of the tickler points being brought in a parallel direction with the needle-heads, and then by a side motion of the hand, which the workmen call a *shog* (and which name will be applied hereafter to that motion,) after the stitches were caught by the ticklers, such stitches were put upon the needles intended to receive them.

It was not long before this patent was invaded by Mr. Arthur Else of this town, a man well known at that time for his genius and misfortunes. Notwithstanding he was justly punished, for invading the patent right of Mr. Morris, in the loss of an action brought against him for that offence, yet he did more good in acting *wrong*, than his prosecutor did in acting *right*; for his invention introduced a new principle of action into the machines attached to the stocking frame, which has rendered immeasurable benefit to many thousands,—From it the *knotted*, *twilled*, *stump*, *wire*, and *mesh* machines took their rise. The principle of this machine consists in two

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\* Breeches-pieces, of cotton and worsted, are now in making by the same means.

arms, or *dogs*, screwed stationary upon the needle-bar between the *star-boxes* and the needle-leads ; and upon the interior plane of these arms, the horizontal bar, to which the ticklers are affixed, slides on its own axis, to answer its requisite motions. Near the far end, and in the hollow of the arms, *nuts* are screwed, which, by being *slotted*, regulate the space over which it is necessary for the ticklers to extend upon the needles ; and *cheeks* are screwed to the ends of the tickler-bar to regulate the shogging motion, while the stitches are shifted from needle to needle. Thus when the workman had finished his frame course, and had got his work back to the sinkers, by covering his needle beards with his ticklers, and bringing his hand-bar forwards to force the stitches upon the needles intended to receive them, he sunk his sinkers down between the ticklers and needles, while the one covered the other ; and by taking the frame *over the arch* the course was finished, and the machine disengaged.—After Mr. Morris had cast Mr. Else, he adopted the latter's invention, and the machinery which he had previously used was laid at rest for ever. He was enabled to do this from his having obtained a patent for the work.

In 1767, two men of the names of Ross and Dorrella, obtained a patent for the manufacturing of

### **VELVET**

upon the stocking frame. This business was chiefly carried on at London and Edmonton, though some little of it was done at Nottingham ; but, in consequence of the *pile* not being fast, the whole soon fell to the ground. The manner of making this species of velvet was as follows :—After the plain course was wrought, a slack course, in an unpressed state, was brought to, and left at the needle-heads ; and then, by means of a tuck presser (the grooves of which were uncovered for the purpose) every second needle was pressed down, and, while they remained in this position, the workman passed a wire between them and those which continued in their natural situation, when the wire was brought forwards from among the needles, and the presser was permitted to rise. The wire being thus connected with the loops, another stiff course was wrought while it remained in that position ; and then a slack one and a stiff one alternately to the end of the piece. When ten, twenty, or any given number of wires were thus inwrapped in the work, the workman, with a sharp edged instrument, cut the loops in the centre—let out the wires, and thus formed the pile of the velvet.

In a short time both the tuck presser and the wires were laid aside, and the pile was produced by the workman simply leaving the slack course at the needle-heads, and working the stiff course upon it ; and by the piece being shaved in like manner as are the Manchester velveteens. I have the more readily given a description of the making of this article, from a persuasion that it will hereafter be produced with ultimate success ; for conscious am I that our mechanics have surmounted greater difficulties than that of fastening the velvet pile.

### **BROCADE.**

Two persons of the names of Crane and Porter obtained a patent, in 1768, for making this work upon the stocking frame ; and it was the most beautiful article ever wrought thereon. Here all the variegated colours of the rainbow were cast into captivating shades : all the tints and curves

of the full-blown carnation were displayed in their diversifying splendour; and the twigs and branches of trees were represented in all their intertwining forms.

To enable the workman to produce these pleasing varieties, a more than ordinary share of ingenuity was necessary. The needles, instead of being secured in leads by the usual mode of casting, had small bits of iron affixed to them, which were placed in grooves in the needle-bar, with a string to the end of each, which strings passed over a cylinder placed between the *slur-wheel* and the frame iron work. A boy, that, from the performance of this duty, was called a *draw-boy*, stood by the side of the frame, and was instructed to draw such needles back, by means of the strings, as were necessary to produce any given pattern, while the workman connected a variety of coloured threads of silk with those needles which remained in their working places. *Query*—Might not the same fancy patterns be produced by having them pricked upon the cylinder, as a tune is pricked upon the cylinder of an organ; and, by the workman turning it with his foot, save the expense of a draw-boy, and give facility to the operations.

After the loss of this branch of business, which was chiefly occasioned by the high price of the goods, another description was made, called *inlaid*, or *shot-brocade*. This was made by means of a twilled machine with a tickler to every other needle; and when the plain course was wrought, and every second stitch taken off its respective needle, and the tickler points were turned upwards, a thread of coloured silk, or of gold or silver twist was laid in, by means of a *thread-carrier*, betwixt those stitches already on the ticklers and those which remained on the needles; after which the removed stitches were replaced upon their respective needles, and the course was finished by the ordinary twilling motion. And, by applying the ticklers to the needles alternately, or changing such application as fancy might direct, the most beautiful waistcoat pieces were made which the imagination can conceive. A rising bar was afterwards added to this machine, which held as many ticklers as the former; and, by applying it when required, the common twilled work could be mixed with the shot-brocade. But framework-knitted brocade, like the velvet, is now only known by its name, and even that is almost forgotten.

### TWILLED WORK.

The invention of the projecting *arm*, or *dog*, the covering tickler, and the horizontal sliding-bar opened a new and a most extensive field to the genius of those connected with the stocking frame. The machine, thus contrived, was not only used as has been stated, but it was applied to the making of what were called twilled waistcoat pieces and stockings, which gave ease and opulence to many families in this town.

The reader will have already learnt the conformation of the twilled machine: he will have learnt that it embraces as many long covering ticklers as there are needles in the frame to which it is appended—that these ticklers are cast into leads, which are fastened upon the tickler-bar, by means of plates and screws—that the axis of this bar slide on the plane of the projecting arms—that nuts stop it in its progress towards the needles; and that checks, screwed to the ends of it, regulate the side shog in the twilling motion, by their coming in contact with the arms.

In making the waistcoat pieces, a *backing-thread*, a *twilling-thread*, and an *inlay-thread* were

used. A plain course of the backing-thread being wrought, a twilling course was then brought to the needle-heads, when, instead of the stitches being pressed over the loops, the ticklers were placed upon the needles and every stitch brought upon them, when their points were turned upwards: the inlay-thread was then passed between the stitches of the backing course and the loops of the twilling one: the machine then being shogged one needle or two according to the pattern, then replaced upon the needles, and, by the sinkers being chocked down between the ticklers, the work was taken back, and the complicated course thus finished. The same process is pursued in making twilled stockings, except that no inlay-thread is used. And, by varying the patterns by different movements of the machine, and using various coloured threads, most exquisitely beautiful articles were produced.

While the backing consisted of good double cotton, and the twilling of the same material, or of silk, every day gave extension to the demand for the goods; but when knavery and cupidity had introduced single cotton into the articles, for the purpose of defrauding the customers, (perdition to the memory of the wretch that first caused single cotton to be used on a stocking frame) the credit of twilled goods soon went to decay, and their consequent extinction shortly followed.— Attempts have been made to revive this business, but with little success, as there is scarcely a twilled frame in being, except there may be a few in Leicestershire, where every thing which is base, deceptive, and dishonorable in the framework-knitting business is patronized and encouraged.\* Whenever the demon of war shall permit peace to destroy the odious military costume, by the introduction of her tasteful fashions, twilled work will revive, if honesty should fortunately be the guide of those that undertake its restoration.

In 1776, the guardian genius of Nottingham again opened her cabinet of curiosities, and presented to the children of industry a new source of wealth, and to the amateurs of dress the most beautiful and durable stockings ever made by human hands. It is unnecessary to inform those who are acquainted with the trade, that I allude to a patent granted, on the 16th of March in the above year, to Horton, Marsh, and Co. for the making of

### KNOTTED WORK

Upon the stocking frame, and for the machine with which such work was to be made.

This machine too has a horizontal bar, whose axis slide on the plane of projecting arms, similar to what has been described. It is also stopt in its forward progress by nuts, and has cheeks to regulate its motion from side to side. But, instead of the long covering ticklers of the twilled machine, a short shouldered *point* is applied to every needle; and, after a plain slack course is wrought, and the work is taken back to the sinkers, the points are set in *under* the needles, in eyes cut for that purpose: then, by a motion of the frame, which is performed by the hand or the foot, at the option of the workman, the machine is forced backwards sufficiently for the shoulder of the point to be level with the head of the needle, and by which means the points are also driven into

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\* Leicester stands in the same point of view, with respect to the stocking business, as Birmingham does to the current coin of the realm.

the stitches ; after which, by a judicious motion of the hand, and at the same time by the turning a *rack* which moves the point-bar sideways just half a needle, the points are brought up between the needles, and every stitch is knotted by being put upon the next needle to that on which it was originally wrought. And thus, by turning the rack one way a given number of courses, and then the same number the other way, a ribbed stocking, waistcoat or breeches-piece is produced, which for lustre sets comparison at defiance. Or, by varying the motion of the rack each succeeding course, which makes the shiftings alternate, and by adding a variety of colours to the threads, the most exquisitely beautiful shades are produced.

To produce the rack motion, a sliding bar, on which the point leads are fastened, is laid lengthwise upon the bottom bar whose axis slide on the arms ; and the extent of the motion is regulated by a *bit* affixed to the point-bar, and which moves between the gauge-screws, which screws pass inwards in an opposite direction through the sides of what is called a *horse-shoe*, the latter being screwed to the bottom bar. To the point-bar are fastened *horns* which regulate the setting-in motion by their fitting against *side-stays* that are screwed to the needle-bar end of the arms. The horns and side-stays are necessary to direct the points into the under eyes of the needles.

So great was the demand for these beautiful and durable goods, that, in 1797, a thousand silk knotted frames could furnish but a scanty supply ; but the breaking out of the Spanish war much injured the foreign demand ; and, by the introduction of the barbarous military fashions from Germany, the home trade soon went to decay ; so much so, that in 1804, there were scarcely fifty frames of this kind in employment. Since that time the ladies in high life have taken to wearing silk knotted stockings, which has given new life to this branch of business. From the time the patent was obtained, to within the last ten or fifteen years, many worsted and cotton knotted hose were made ; but by the vile practice pursued in Leicestershire of cutting this kind of stockings out of pieces, instead of making them sound, by shaping them on the frame, that branch of business has been lost.

Three attempts succeeded in producing imitations of knotted work, by means of a twilling machine and some additional apparatus ; and *imitations* they only were ; for, to compare them with the original, would be like comparing the fugitive caricature prints with the fine paintings of Rubens, Reynolds, and Hogarth. The first was called *wire-work*, from a wire being passed between the loops and stitches, after the latter had been gathered by the ticklers, in the same manner as the inlay thread was laid in, in the twilled waistcoat-pieces. When the wire was laid in, the course was twilled, the frame brought over the arch, and the jacks drawn for a succeeding course while the wire lay behind the sinker-nibs. The work being then brought to the needle-heads, the wire was drawn out, and, the far end of it being broad, by that mean the *backing* was forced over the needle-heads, while the *plating*, which was of silk, was left upon the needle-beards ; and thus, if the silk happened to be of a tolerable size, the cotton backing was concealed.

This was the invention of a person of the name of Ash ; but, as the wire, by so frequently coming in contact with the needles, produced many inconveniences to the workmen, the invention of *stumps*, by the ingenious Samuel Hague, drove the wire out of the field, as the stockings thereby produced were of the same description.

This work now changed its name from *wire* to *stump-work*, and was produced by there being a *stump*, consisting of a bit of wire, which was cast into the leads over each needle, and extended about the eighth of an inch over the ends of the needle-beards. In making the ordinary course a presser was not used; for when the course was twilled in the usual manner it was put upon the stumps with the ticklers, when the workman, in the act of sinking his next course, brought his frame sufficiently forward to let the loops slip from the ends of the stumps, while the last finished course remained upon them: he then had to move his frame backwards, so as to bring the loops under the needle-beards, and then by bringing his frame forwards in the usual way, the stitches were brought over the loops. In making the twilling course the stumps answered the same purpose as the broad end of the wire did in the last named contrivance, by letting the backing slip from them upon the needles, while the plating remained; so that the silk was connected with and plated every course. This plan, in a short time was succeeded by one called, a *mesh-machine*, the united invention of William Green, a setter-up, and the before mentioned Mr. Hague; hence the goods wrought thereby bore the name of *mesh-work*.

In this description of frames, too, the presser is unnecessary, the use of it being supplied by the ticklers, in the following manner:—When the twilling operation of the course is finished, and the frame is brought over the arch, instead of the machine being taken off the needles, as is usual in making the ordinary twilled work, it is taken forward by the last mentioned motion of the frame, so as to keep the stitches on the ticklers; and in this situation it remains while the thread is laid and the jacks are drawn for the backing course; (the ticklers being cranked, and the machine being raised sufficiently high to admit of the thread being laid across the needles while it remains in this position,) the frame being then brought forward, the machine, with the last wrought course on the ticklers, is brought along with it; so that while the loops are brought *under* the needle-beards, the stitches are brought *over* them; and thus the pressing motion is dispensed with. In the performance of these operations the plating course is left behind the backing, and thus every course becomes plated. The number of these frames was very great within the last twenty years; but, by the introduction into the branch, of that deadly cankerworm, *single cotton*, the number soon became reduced extremely low.

From the *wire*, *stump*, and *mesh* stockings possessing more elasticity than the twilled ones, they obtained the general appellation of *elastics*. And it ought to be observed, that *knots*, *twills*, and all their imitations are made sideways; consequently the frames must be from twenty-eight to thirty-four inches wide.

A person of the name of Ball attempted to make the *elastic plates* by means of *hooks*, instead of ticklers; but the bare mentioning of this ephemeral plan is more than it deserves.

## WARPS.

In 1775, Mr. Crane, of Edmonton, whom we have already noticed, made a machine, which formed another epoch in the history of framework-knitting, since it united the *stitch* of the stocking frame with the *warp* of the weaver's loom.

There have been three competitors for the honor of this invention, viz. Mr. Marsh, one of the knotted patentees, Mr. Crane, and Mr. James Morris, then of Nottingham, but now of Doncaster, if living. The state of the fact, as I had it from Morris himself, is as follows—Crane, as has been already stated, was the inventor, and, like most other geniuses not being overburdened with money, he communicated to Marsh the import of his discovery, who gave him an hundred guineas for the secret, and for the privilege of using it as his own. Marsh, at the instigation of his partner Horton, came to Nottingham, for the advantage of superior workmen to put his scheme in practice, when Morris got some insight into the business, and being himself an expert mechanic, he immediately set about making a warp frame. The credit of Marsh being hereby brought to issue, and doubts being raised as to the probability of a patent being obtained, Mr. Horton caused him and Mr. Morris to be brought before himself, to display their several pretensions to the honor of the invention; when, in fact, neither of them had any more claim to its originality than had the man in the moon, and this, Morris, was honest enough to tell me, though many years after the transaction.\*

It still remains a matter of dispute, among those concerned in the Nottingham trade, whether the invention of the warp frame is a good or an evil: one party contending that it is a *good*, from its having furnished thousands with the means of subsistence; while the others contend that this is not strictly the fact, “because,” say they, “the warp frame has not caused a demand for framework-knitted goods, which would not otherwise have existed, except in the article of sailors jackets; and, that it is an evil because the warp work in general has diffused a principle of disgrace upon the greater part of the framework-knitted branch of the national trade.” When warp work is made into stockings, from the necessity there is of shaping them with scissors, it is impossible to consider it in any other than a spurious and contaminating point of view: the event, however, has proved that the evil carries with it its own antidote; for, to the honor of the trade, there is scarcely a warp stocking manufactured at the present time, or has been for some years, except it be in Leicestershire, that eternal sink of disgrace to the stocking business. As a preventive against imposition, the most superficial observer may distinguish between warp and other stockings—if the former be party-coloured, from the zig zag manner in which the colours are intermixed they are immediately to be distinguished; and when made of a solid colour there is no fear of imposition, except they are mistaken for knotted ribs. On this score much damage was done some years ago to the sale of knotted breeches-pieces, from the close imitation which silk warps bore to those excellent articles. The *warps*, in a great degree, destroyed the credit of the *knotted-pieces*, and then fell victims to their own imperfections, as a murderer gets hanged for taking the life of a valuable member of society. Another distinguishable defect in the warp stockings is, their possessing little more elasticity than a piece of common linen; consequently, if they be made to fit the leg, they will tear in the act of drawing them on. Notwithstanding the native and irremoveable defects in these stockings and breeches-pieces, there were 300 frames at least, employed in manufacturing them within the last sixteen years; and probably the number would still have been considerable,

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\* Much merit is also due to Mr. James Tarrat, of this town, for early improvement, if not for the original invention of the warp frame.



on account of the extremely low price at which they were sold, if the cupidity of the manufacturers had not caused them to be made of single cotton, which in a short time drove them out of the market. Indeed, after this, for a man to be seen with a pair of warp stockings on, it was sure to cause him to be pointed out as an object incapable of obtaining a better pair. Here one pest destroyed another, as the crocodile destroys the noxious reptiles which fall within its grasp.

In the year 1796, John Barber, Esq. of Bilborough, in this neighbourhood, obtained a patent for making *double-lap stocking stitch-work* upon the warp engine or frame. From the article produced by this invention being as stout as a blanket, when made of good worsted, and being without the property inherent in that article of contracting in size after being wet, Mr. Barber conceived the idea of converting it into sailors' jackets; which, in his opinion, would be warmer and more pliable than those in general use.\* With this view he applied to the Lords of the Admiralty, petitioning their lordships to have the experiment made under the eye of one of our naval commanders. To this proposition they agreed, and Lord Nelson was pitched upon for the purpose. The event surprised Lord Nelson and the Lords of the Admiralty, and justified the expectations of Mr. Barber—the project was adopted; and the sailors were clothed in the manufacture of Nottinghamshire, that gained the glorious victory of Trafalgar, on the 21st of October, 1805, when Lord Nelson lost his life. The double-lap, when made on fine frames and is wrought of good worsted, forms an excellent article for gentlemen's pantaloons.

Since the failure of warp stockings, many of the frames have been employed in making lace; but more of this hereafter. The stocking and warp frames differ essentially in their powers, as well as conformation: the former being a complete engine of itself, and is capable of having articles of the finest texture wrought upon it; while the latter is nothing without its conjunctive machine.

### NOTTINGHAM LACE.

The discovery of the mines of Potosi, in the year 1545, was of far less value, and far less honorable to the cruel and merciless Spaniards, than the discovery of making lace on the stocking frame has been to the people of Nottingham—the mines sink in value by application, and diffuse eternal disgrace on the iniquitous nation that discovered them; while framework-knitted lace will be a spring of never-ceasing wealth to this town, if avarice does not destroy it by unfair dealings, as its source receives a constant replenish from the genius of those it employs; thus stamping upon it the images of gratitude and growing vigour, which brighten by comparison with every source of ill-gotten store.

The facility with which oilet-holes could be made by the covering tickler, gave the first idea of manufacturing lace upon a stocking frame. The different sorts made with the twilled machine were, the *Valenciennes*, the *two-plain*, the *flowered*, or *joining-net*, and the *spider*. The Valenciennes was made with a tickler to every other needle, with which, when the plain course was wrought, every second stitch was shifted to the next needle but one; then, by another motion of

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\* This gentleman, it is generally understood, spent a fortune of £50,000 in mechanism, and in permitting knaves to impose on his credulity.

the machine, the stitch remaining untouched was removed the same distance, and in the same direction. The same process was pursued the next course, only the stitches were shifted the contrary way; and thus a double cross-stitch net was produced, which was well calculated for mits, gloves, and purses. When this net was made with only shifting once in a course, it was called *single cross-stitch*. And the two-plain was so called from there being a tickler only to every third needle, consequently two needles remained plain every course; though by moving the ticklers with a rack handle, any of the stitches could be shifted, as the workman was directed by his pattern or his whim.

The flowered, on joining-net took its name from certain parts of the work being left plain in the shape of flowers, which in some patterns were joined by intertwining branches. Instead of the ticklers being cast into leads in the usual manner, they were made of thick wire, and had the bottom ends battered broad, through a hole in each of which, a wire passed lengthwise on the tickler-bar, in the form of a spindle, upon which the ticklers moved in a leverage motion as they were acted upon for that purpose. When it was necessary to leave any particular space plain for the purpose of forming a flower, a branch, or a sprig, the ticklers, which would otherwise have acted upon these parts, were turned upwards by means of a roller on which the patterns were set, in like manner as tunes are pricked on the cylinder of an organ. The invention of this net is attributed to Mr. Robert Frost. Two other plans were attempted for raising the ticklers—one by means of slides, and the other with strings and pullies: but with very indifferent success.

*Spider-net* received its name from the figure of an insect of that name being wrought in the work, which was done by making the ticklers act upon appropriate needles. In fact, wildworms, diamonds, and an almost endless variety of other devices can be formed by the same means. In 1806, there was a great demand for this net, for ladies' habit shirts, &c.; but its own imperfections soon reduced the consumption of it to what was used by women, whose reputation was little better than its own; and they used it for no other purpose than that of giving a bewitching appearance to the bosom, while they falsely assumed its concealment.

### **SQUARE-NET.**

This net possesses a greater degree of lustre and durability than any other, and is therefore better calculated for mits, gloves, purses, and shawls, of any yet produced. Mr. Robert Frost obtained a patent for the making of this net by a machine, the conformation and principal movements of which were founded on the Derdy-rib machine. During the existence of the patent, attempts were made to invade it, by making the net with the knotted machine, but this never succeeded till the year 1798; and the reader, by referring to the *knots*, will see the principle of this improvement, while we describe the practice in shewing the formation of the net.

A tuck-presser is made use of, which presses the stitch over the loop on every other needle, after which the work is put back to the sinkers by means of a *pushing-bar*, which is affixed to the machine; which machine is like a knotted one, with the exception of its having a point only to every other needle, and having an additional bar, which lies between the bottom bar and the point bar, and to which the horns are affixed; so that by means of an additional rack handle, the point

bar is moved *to* and *fro*, to enable the workman to apply the point to *this* or *that* needle, without altering the position of the horns, which was the movement so long unsuccessfully sought for.—The pressed stitches are now knotted upon the unpressed ones both ways, the machine being used twice every course for that purpose. Thus by varying the presser and the points one needle every course, square fast meshes are produced, which form a net, as has been stated, superior to any other for certain purposes.\*

### WARP-LACE.

About the year 1784, a Mr. Ingham, of this town, discovered the art of making net upon a warp frame; but for reasons, which I am not fully acquainted with, the scheme was given up. In 1787, William Dawson, an ingenious needle-maker, contrived a warp engine for the making of lace, the different parts of which were set in motion by a wheel, which was turned by the hand. In a short time after he got a factory built in Turncalf-alley, which contained a considerable number of these machines; but his *grinding of lace*, as his plan was sarcastically called, succeeded very indifferently, as the net cost nearly as much mending as it did making. He afterwards took to manufacturing a different description of net, which answered well for officers' sashes, window curtains, braces, &c. And, in 1800, he removed with his machinery to Islington near London; his factory in Nottingham being afterwards converted into a silk mill.

Various patents have been obtained, by persons of this town, for making warp lace; but so numerous are the pretensions set up for the invention of different movements and variously formed meshes, that it would be no easy matter to enumerate them: suffice it to say, on that head, that the patentees and other inventors mutually laugh at, and invade each other schemes.

### POINT-NET.

This branch, which more than any other has contributed to the prosperity of Nottingham, had various competitors for the honor of its discovery. Thomas Taylor and son, James Morris, and one Flint, all Nottingham men, have all a share in the credit. The Taylors laid a separate claim to the honor, and so did the other two individually; but the most probable state of the case is, that the world is indebted for it to the genius of the whole. Flint first conceived the idea, and his necessities induced him to communicate it to the Taylors for twenty pounds, who were framesmiths and good mechanics, consequently they could work by his instructions, and add something from their own stock of ingenuity. Still, however, the thing was not complete, and Morris was called in, who gave the finishing ideas to the formation of the mesh; and all he ever got

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\* A few stockings were made with a stripe of knotted work and stripe of net alternately, the latter being made of stouter silk, and the machine being applied only once in a course, a handsome three-square hole was produced; the grooves in the tuck-presser being covered with a slide while the knotted rib was wrought. These stockings, from their superior beauty, it was thought would have had a ready sale; but the cupidity of one or two persons destroyed the scheme in its bud.

In 1808, a great improvement was made in the tuck-presser, by casting *stumps*, with grooved ends, into leads of an inch broad, which are screwed upon a slide which moves on the surface of the common presser. These stumps answer the purpose of teeth in the pressing slide; and are in every way better calculated to suit the intended purpose, particularly as the workmen are not subject to half the misfortunes, as they are with the teeth in the pressing slide.

for his services was the satisfaction arising to an honorable mind from having added something to the stock of human benefits. About the year 1773, the Taylors obtained a patent for the manufacturing of this net, which they sold to Mr. Morris, the oilet-hole mit patentee, and he sold it to John Hayne and Co. to whose determined perseverance the net owes much of its importance in the fashionable world.

For lightness and beauty of texture, and for regularity of mesh, this net had no parallel; nor have the subsequent inventions in the art of making lace, apart from the point-net machine, produced a parallel, in all the various purposes to which fancy has applied it. Still, during the first twelve or fourteen years of its existence, it could not establish that sort of credit which is necessary to ensure to a newly introduced article of fancy an extensive sale, which was owing to its not possessing a sufficient degree of fastness in the mesh to prevent it from roving when a thread should happen to be broken. Various trials were made both in Nottingham and Mansfield, (a few frames of this description having been set to work in the latter place) to fasten the stitch upon the frame; and many are the claimants to the honor of its accomplishment; but if we are to credit the history of Mansfield, the object was attained by John Rogers of that place, in the year 1786,—Shortly after the completion of this desirable object the net changed its name, from *loose-point*, or *single-press*, to *fast-point*, or *double-press*; and experience soon proved that it merited public approbation; as a proof of which we need only name, that, at the time the mode of fastening the stitch was discovered, there were few more than twenty point-net frames in existence, and some of them not more than eighteen or twenty inches wide; whereas in 1810, there were at the least fifteen hundred frames employed in this manufacture, and many hundreds of them more than thirty inches wide; which, taking the business in all its branches, gave employment to, from ten to fifteen thousand persons, including women and children. It is worthy of remark too, that great numbers of women and children, in the counties of Derby, Leicester, York, Stafford, &c. received employment in whipping, running, and tambouring this net, when other work could not be obtained.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE POINT-NET MACHINE.

This machine, like the Derby-rib, is screwed upon the rafter, and its motions, too, in general are the same. The *standard-bars*, about thirteen inches long (four inches of which are bent down, so as to admit of a *slot*, and one inch of the parts thus bent down is turned up for a screw to pass through in a perpendicular direction) being laid on the rafter, a *back-bar*, as long as the machine is wide, and having upright ends which will admit of strong *centre-screws* passing through them, is then screwed to the standard-bars, and rests upon the perpendicular screws, which are called *gauge-screws*; and thus the foundation of the machine is laid. The *bottom*, or *horizontal* arms, which are about ten inches long, being connected by two *cross-bars*, are then fixed between the centre-screws, upon which they move in a leverage direction; and thus the first movement is produced. The extent of this motion is determined by *top* and *bottom standard-screws*, which are affixed to the near end of the standard-bars, and between which the bottom arms move. The ends of those arms (which are brought out sufficiently to give the machine an inclining position when in its working motions) have circular sockets, in an inward direction, in which the axis of the

*spindle-bar* roll. From the spindle-bar rise the *side-arms*, near the upper end of which the *top centre-screws* pass through, and on the points of the latter the *centre-bits*, to which the tickler-bar is attached, perform their half-circular motions. To the hand-bar of the frame are screwed two cranked bits of iron called *temporary-levels*, against the inclined surface of which the tickler-bar rests, as well when the frame is over the arch as when the second pressing motion is performing. To the tickler-bar are screwed *leads* of an inch broad each, into which the *ticklers* are cast, each of the latter having an *eye* sufficiently broad to cover two needles, while the *blades* of the ticklers are thin enough to pass between the needles without driving them from their natural position. A thin *side-bar* lies behind the leads, and is confined in its proper sphere of action by long *end-bits* screwed thereto, and which pass in their rising and falling motions between the tickler-bar and *iron-loops*, which are screwed to the last mentioned bar. These being the great essential parts of the machine, the lesser ones will be described when we are speaking of their motions and utility.

While the jacks are drawn, the blades of the ticklers lie between the needles and behind the sinker-nibs, which causes them to become connected with the loops when the plain course is wrought. When this is done, the workman puts the frame back with his right hand, while with his left he takes hold of the machine handle, which is screwed near to the centre of the tickler-bar. and by its means he turns the latter bar, and consequently the ticklers also, from a perpendicular to an horizontal direction, at the same time rolling the machine upon its back centre-screws and raising the body of it from the bottom to the top standards, so that every tickler, by coming in contact with the needles, embraces two in its eye; at the same time the half circular motion of the tickler-bar, causes the cranked ends of the slide-bar to strike against the *pushing-springs*, which are screwed to the side-arms; and thus by the slide-bar being forced upwards, it drives the loops upon the needles, from which the ticklers are then drawn; and thus the loose-point, or single-press course is finished. And by working the next course with the tickler-blades between the contrary needles, which is done by the spindle-bar being shogged the space of one needle in the sockets in which it rolls, the point-net mesh is completed.

To produce the *fast-stitch*, the workman, instead of drawing the ticklers off the needles when both are connected with the loops, he draws the machine towards him sufficiently for the tickler-eyes to quit the needle-heads; at the same time a *bolt*, which slides up and down in sockets which are screwed into the off side of one of the side-arms, stops the motion of the machine by coming in contact with a gauge-screw, which projects towards the frame in an horizontal direction for that purpose, and which passes through the cranked end of a piece of iron screwed to the needle-bar.—The machine is now dropped down to the bottom standards, and thereby the tickler-blades are brought between the needles and put back to the sinkers, while both ticklers and needles are involved in the loops. The lower edge of the tickler-bar now rests against the temporary-levels, while the upper edge, to which the tickler-leads are screwed, is brought sufficiently forwards for the ticklers to bring the loops under the needle-beards, in which motion it is arrested by a cranked *tumbler* laying hold of the top of the bolt. The slide-bar, by means of a *tongue* descending from its centre, which is connected by a string with a *thumb-bit*, that rolls on a swivel in the centre of the tickler-bar, is put up in order to divide the stitches from the loops, so as to admit of the needle-

heard ends being pressed down between them. The presser is now put down—the bolt is drawn down from behind the tumbler—the course pressed a second time—the stitches are again forced over the loops, and the latter are again put upon the needles, as described at the conclusion of the single-press operations; and thus the double-press course is completed.—The pressure upon the left hand, in the act of raising the machine, is in a great measure taken away by a *mainspring* which operates from the rafter against the front cross-bar of the machine.—The bolt is drawn from behind the tumbler by a lever which connects it with the locker of the frame, and is raised to its steady position by a small spring.—There are also *guard-screws*, projecting from the needle-bar, for the purpose of preventing the ticklers from touching the needle-heads when the former are in a perpendicular direction.

Many ingenious workmen have applied their inventive powers to the simplifying several of the motions, by changing or adding to the machine a variety of articles; but as these depend more upon the whim and caprice of the workmen, than upon real utility, I shall not trouble the reader with their names, or the purposes to which they are applied.

A feeling of grateful respect to a branch of business, to which Nottingham owed a great part of its support from 1797 to 1811, will account for the minute description given of this machine.—When the French war, the Spanish war, and a change of fashions attendant upon a war system had nearly destroyed every branch of the fancy trade in stockings—when want and starvation were shaking their whips at the industrious inhabitants of this town, the point-net branch blazed forth like a great luminary to guide their steps from the path of sorrow. And, whatever may have been the foibles of *Flint*, to whose inventive genius the town owes so much in the discovery of this machine, it is a pity that abject poverty should be his companion in his old age; and, if he should outlive the publication of this article, I hope it may induce a subscription for his support—the money might more than repay the benefactors, by inducing others to exert their powers of mind for the public good.

The extreme fineness of the frames, on which point-net is wrought, formed an obstacle to the making the net of any other material than that of silk, till the year 1804; which, in consequence of that material being incapable of receiving a perfect whiteness, a substitute had long been called for by the public. Fine cotton and flaxen yarn, the latter of which cost forty guineas a pound, had been tried with a thread of silk to each; but let the silk be doubled with which it might, the threads always cut or discoloured each other. Notwithstanding repeated failures, the lace manufacturers urged the cotton spinners to proceed in their endeavours to spin yarn sufficiently fine to admit of its being worked double. This they accomplished in the above-mentioned year, and at a time too when silk was so very scarce, that, otherwise, numbers of workmen must have stood still for want of employment.

The introduction of cotton net into the market soon produced a most extensive sale, not only from its preserving a perfect whiteness, but from its answering almost every purpose of the *bone*, or *cushion lace*, at a much cheaper rate. In 1808, cotton point-net was at its zenith of glory, at which time more than six hundred frames of the first quality were employed in manufacturing it; but it was doomed to fall a sacrifice to the evil genius of the trade—cupidity introduced *single*

*cotton*, that eternal pest, and even single-press, made of that worst of all materials, was also re-produced—single cotton, sometimes wrought into single and sometimes into double-press, was foisted in cargoes upon foreign merchants for the genuine double cotton net—shoals of speculators, or rather *peculators* issued from the town with robbery in their eyes, deceit in their hearts, falsehood on their tongues, and boxes of spurious net on their backs, with the latter of which they soon inundated the country, till in a short time no person of respectability could be found that would buy the *good* cotton point-net, for fear of being imposed upon by the *bad*; and at the present time (1815) scarcely a yard of it is made, except a little single-press at Mansfield. The more reputable among the manufacturers adopted the plan of distinguishing between the genuine and the spurious by printed labels, which had a good effect for a time; but the *infamous* soon found the means of playing upon this plan, for they labelled too, but took care to label the *bad* for the *good*; and thus the ruin of this valuable branch of business was completed. It is some consolation however, to know, that the radical quality of silk is a preventive to the infamous arts; and to this may be attributed, that point-net lace is still, and I hope will ever be in repute. It is proper to observe here, that cotton net is still made upon warp frames to a considerable extent.

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It has been too much the practice, particularly some years ago, with the manufacturers of fancy goods in this town, to endeavour to abate the workmen in their prices, which could answer the object of avarice only for a time, because the circumstance of a reduction in the manufacturing price cannot be long kept from the ears of the consumer. And the practice is still more inexcusable (and I know I shall be borne out in the assertion by the testimony of every honorable manufacturer in the trade) because a corresponding depression, in the estimation of the rich, in articles of fancy dress, always accompanies a reduction of their prices. To repel these attacks upon their prosperity, the workmen, in some of the branches, were in the habit of clubbing their mites to enable them to support the hands of any particular employer, for the purpose of stopping his business when he made an attempt to reduce their prices. An act, called the Combination Act, was passed in the year 1799, which compelled the knotted and point-net workmen to break up their funds, which they did on the 12th of October the same year. But, as an object of torture always loses part of its terrors by becoming familiar to the eye, so this has been the case with the Combination Act in many instances in this town, particularly when the workmen have had justice on their side, which is always considered so by the public when attempts are made to reduce their earnings, except a reduction in the prices of the necessities of life has previously taken place. The Combination Act is marked with such direct partiality as to make it odious in the eyes even of those who seek to further their own views by taking advantage of its provisions; and even the barristers that accept briefs founded upon it will generally hesitate in their declamations. The facilities it affords for punishing the *employed*, over what it affords for punishing the *employers* is the cause of its being held in general abhorrence. Hence it is that the workmen employed in the point-net branch, by conducting their opposition to the individual attacks of their employers in peace have universally linked public sympathy to their cause, and have generally been successful.

The mode adopted formerly of measuring the lace pieces by the employers was the most preposterous which the imagination can conceive. The standard of calculation was for a piece to measure *twelve long yards*, which were paid for as twelve common yards; and the understanding in the trade was, that a piece of this length should measure eighteen *stretched yards*, on account of the elastic quality of the net. But an *unprincipled heart* in the measurer always *unnerved his arm* in the act of admeasurement; and to such an excess did impositions creep upon the heels of each other in this practice, till many workmen were actually compelled to make twenty-four yards for twelve, and even then they had no guarantee against further imposition. In 1809, a plan was proposed to remove this intolerable grievance, by adopting a mode of admeasurement founded on calculation, which was universally approved of by the workmen, and warmly supported by every honorable employer; and the dishonorable were put to the blush. The following handbill, which was published on the 24th of August, in the above year, will throw much light upon the business:—

*To the Gentlemen Lace Manufacturers, assembled at the Punch Bowl, Peck-lane, for the purpose of adopting measures pursuant to the good of the trade.*

Gentlemen, the workmen, presuming on your condescension, think it would argue an utter indifference on their part to the general interest of the trade, were they to suffer a crisis so momentous as the present is to its future welfare to pass without their notice.—Your professed objects are, the removal of two evils, whose consequences, although not equally destructive in *appearance*, yet, by suffering them to exist, they will be found so in the sequel. You will easily perceive, that we allude to the making of single cotton net, and the measurement of pieces. The means of removing the first of these evils, we conceive you to be in full possession of; if not, all our endeavours shall be turned to the aiding you in the laudable pursuit: while on the latter subject, we beg leave to offer a few observations.

It is well known to you, Gentlemen, that the nature and contexture of the net are such as to preclude the possibility of establishing a standard mode of measurement, so as to prevent those disquietudes and jealousies which constantly exist between the employer and employed, and even among the employers themselves; each one having his particular mode of measuring, which he can vary at his will, or as it may suit his purpose; that is, each one considers himself justified in obtaining the greatest possible length, that he may be enabled to go to market and sell cheaper than his neighbour; thus a competition is produced which engenders ill-blood among the employers---reduces the article in public estimation, and eventually bring a continual abatement upon the workmen, by continually adding to the length of their pieces; which, considering the never-ceasing advancement in the prices of the necessities of life, and the increase of house-rent, taxes, &c. is likely, even in this respect, to produce consequences too serious for contemplation. And furthermore, this fortuitous competition so reduces the value of the article, that every contrivance is adopted to make net of inferior materials, and of inferior quality, to ensure individual sale. Thus by deceiving the public for a time, public faith is lost, and with it the trade itself must perish, to the inevitable ruin of thousands of workpeople, and to the serious detriment of those gentlemen who have embarked their property therein. And we beg leave to give it as our opinion, that no plan will effectually put a stop to the evils resulting from the present distracting mode of measuring, *but that of paying by count*---a plan, which wants nothing but your concurrence and injunction to put it in practice!!

Objections may be started to it, we know; but those objections, we flatter ourselves, we can obviate. For instance, it may be supposed that some workmen will be so vile as to filch from the numbers of *holes* agreed upon to be between the *marks*; but, it being understood that detection in this respect would not only cost the defaulter his seat of work, but likewise his character in the trade, so that he would not be able to obtain employment elsewhere---common fear would keep the designing honest; for who would employ such a wretch? and who dreads not obtaining the character of a vagabond? Thus the manufacturer would have nothing to do, after seeing that the net was brought in agreeable in quality, but to count over the number of *marks*, and to give orders to have his pieces made with a



number of marks to correspond with the length required. And, if in the act of counting over, he suspected foul play, one of his warehouse girls would quickly determine the question ; and the consequences of fraud would be immediately felt in the displeasure of the employer.

The plan here alluded to, we flatter ourselves, is pregnant with many benefits to the trade, inasmuch as it would cause happiness to exist between the employer and the employed, in their transactions with each other---it would prevent that destructive competition between the employers themselves, and all the consequences attendant thereon.

Gentlemen, we have forbore to enter at large into a minute detail of the plan in question, under an idea that it might be too tedious for immediate discussion---*its benefits struck us as its most prominent feature* ; but any information on the subject, we shall at all times be ready to submit.

This was signed, on the part of the workmen, by German Waterfall, John Blackner, Samuel Peace, and Thomas Brooks.

This bill, as was expected, produced a great sensation in the meeting of manufacturers : Mr. William Hayne, the greatest manufacturer in the town, who had been returned from France about twelve months, after seven years' captivity, most warmly espoused the cause of the workmen, in the professed plan of paying *by count*, as also did many more honorable characters among the employers—they did more—they immediately adopted means for carrying it into execution, by ordering an instrument to be made, called a *rack*, which consists of several small *tooth and pinion* wheels, a hammer, and a bell ; the whole being cased in a box and affixed to some part of the frame, so that the wheels can be acted upon by the rotary motion of the slur ; and when as many revolutions have been performed as are required for the production of an agreed number of holes or meshes lengthwise between the marks, the hammer strikes the bell, which is the signal for the workman to weave into the selvage of his piece a bit of coloured silk.\*

This plan, though founded on the principles of eternal justice, was warmly opposed by Mr. William Nunn, a first rate manufacturer at that time, and an *exotic*, and a tyrant in the trade ; nor was he wanting of a few others to support him in his nefarious opposition ; but *they* soon yielded to the weapons of public disapprobation and shame ; and before the close of the year 1810, *he* was left to support the contest in favor of injustice himself. The following extract from a hand-bill, published by the workmen on the 9th of July, 1810, will illustrate the above remarks.—It is necessary however to state, that the gentlemen that had adopted the rack had also agreed to reduce the rent of lace frames, to destroy the inducement which high rents held out to persons *not in the trade* to buy frames, a practice which had been much pursued, and which was considered materially injurious. These manufacturers had therefore given public notice, that, on a given day, they would abate the price of making the point-net piece, *in their own defence*, except the non-complying manufacturers adopted their system ; and, in the sequel, both plans were successful. The workmen were therefore necessitated to bestir themselves in support of their own interest.—  
Extract :—

The committee, immediately upon their being elected, applied to the manufacturers above alluded to, to suspend the notice of abatement, to give them time for a display of their endeavours, to induce the non-complying manufacturers

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\* Several workmen have been found vile enough to violate the rack contract ; but the workmen at large have regularly taken cognizance of the criminals ; some have been compelled to ask pardon in the newspapers, and others have been refused permission to work at the branch for a given time.

to adopt the rack and reduce the rent, of whom Mr. Nunn is chief; notwithstanding that he did himself propose one shilling a week, as the standard rent, to one of the above gentlemen, in May, 1809. Mr. Nunn was applied to last March, by two deputies from the workmen, to comply with the adoption of the rack, and the reduction of the rent; and the reason assigned by him for his non-compliance with their request was, that, as his own workmen did not complain, he had a right to suppose they were satisfied. The workmen of this gentleman were accordingly called together, when 128, out of 144, signed a petition to him, praying that he would comply with the above regulations, for the salvation of the trade, and for their own peace and comfort in their transactions with his warehouse; since without the rack to regulate the length of pieces, the situation of a workman is deplorable indeed. This petition was taken to London by two of Mr. Nunn's own workmen, and was backed by their arguments and their prayers; but without any other effect, than that of his admitting the principle of their arguments to be just, and turning a deaf ear to their prayers.

No language of mine can do adequate justice to the characters of the regulating manufacturers; and, in 1811, Mr. Nunn yielded to the force of public opinion; and the rack has happily been applied to other species of lace work.\*

### STATISTICAL

## ACCOUNT OF THE FRAMEWORK-KNITTING TRADE.

The materials for this article were several years collecting, with care and industry rarely surpassed, particularly by one ingenious and indefatigable individual, for the general use of the trade; and, in 1812, they were brought into arrangement; and to each city, town, and village, the particular number of frames therein contained was attached. In the more immediate framework-knitting districts, the frames were actually counted by persons going from house to house—for instance, Nottingham was found to contain 2600, Leicester from 1600 to 1700, Derby near 400, Ilkeston and Heanor 350 each, Hinckley 1500, Sheepshead 900, Radford, Old and New, 350, and Mansfield 400; but, on a subject of such difficulty in coming at correctness, it is judged improper to commit the credit of this work upon an arrangement so liable to quibble and dispute. The names of most of the towns and villages where frames are found, will be given in alphabetical order in their respective counties, with a summary number of the frames in each county; and an interesting division of the trade into its several branches will be found in the sequel. The state of the trade in foreign countries may be depended upon as bordering on correctness, particularly in France, Spain, and the Netherlands. On the statement respecting America the least dependence is to be placed, in consequence of the infant state of the trade in that extensive and rising Republic being subject to so many contingent fluctuations, stoppages, and migrations, which render accuracy in the obtainment of information almost impossible.

<i>NOTTINGHAM,</i>		
AND THE COUNTY.		
Awsworth	Arnold	Brinsley
Aunesley	Beeston	Bradmore
Attenborough	Beggarlee	Basford (Old and New)
	Bingham	Bulwell
	Bramcote	Blidworth

\* It was intended to enter into the particulars of the twist-net manufacture in this chapter; but, at the present time, insurmountable obstacles have been cast in the way to an obtainment of the necessary information, which will be removed in a few months; therefore it has been judged the most advisable to postpone the whole account to the appendix, rather than give it in detached parts.

Barton  
 Burton Joice  
 Balderton  
 Calverton  
 Cossall  
 Caythorpe  
 Carlton  
 Cortlinstock  
 Cotgrave  
 Clifton  
 Cropwell Bishop  
 Chilwell  
 Eastwood  
 Epperstone  
 Farnsfield  
 Farndon  
 Gedling  
 Gotham  
 Gunthorpe  
 Hucknall Torkard  
 Hucknall Dirty  
 Hickling  
 Hoveringham  
 Kirkby Woodhouse  
 Kirkby  
 Keyworth  
 Kimberley  
 Linby  
 Lowdham  
 Leake (East and West)  
 Lambley  
 Mansfield  
 Mansfield Woodhouse  
 Market Warsop  
 NOTTINGHAM  
 Newark  
 Newthorpe  
 Normanton  
 Over Broughton  
 Oxton  
 Oxton Grange  
 Papplewick  
 Radford (Old and New)  
 Ruddington  
 Ratcliff  
 Snenton (Old and New)  
 Stanton  
 Sutton-in-Ashfield

Skegby  
 Shelford  
 Selston  
 Stapleford  
 Southwell  
 Sutton Bonington  
 Thargarton  
 Thrumpton  
 Woollaton  
 Wilford  
 Widmerpool  
 Willoughby  
 Watnall  
 Woodborough

Total - - 9285

LEICESTER,  
 AND THE COUNTY.

Ashby-de-la-Zouch  
 Ansty  
 Asfordby  
 Aston Flenville  
 Astley  
 Ayleston  
 Belgrave  
 Birstall  
 Barkby  
 Barkby Thorpe  
 Bagworth  
 Belton  
 Barrow  
 Bottesford  
 Blaby  
 Bruntingthorpe  
 Broughton  
 Barwell  
 Burbage  
 Cossington  
 Courtsthorpe  
 Cosby  
 Coleorton Moor  
 Cadeby  
 Castle Donington

Desford  
 Diseworth  
 Dalby-in-the-Woulds  
 Dunton Basset  
 Enderby  
 Earl Shilton  
 Frisby  
 Frolesworth  
 Foston  
 Glenfield  
 Gaddesby  
 Grooby  
 Humberstone  
 Ilathern  
 Hether  
 Hemmington  
 Hoton  
 Hinckley  
 Huglescote  
 Ibstock  
 Knighton  
 Kegworth  
 Kilby  
 Long Whatton  
 LEICESTER  
 Loughborough  
 Little Dalby  
 Little Thorpe  
 Lutterworth  
 Market Bosworth  
 Mountsorrel  
 Melton Mowbray  
 Markfield  
 Nailstow  
 Nether Broughton  
 Norborough  
 Newton Linford  
 Newbold Garden  
 Osgathorpe  
 Oadby  
 Peckleton  
 Quorndon  
 Queneborough  
 Ratby  
 Ravenstone  
 Reorsby  
 Rotheby  
 Swannington

Sheepshead  
 Sileby  
 Syston  
 Sutton  
 Seagrave  
 Saxelby  
 Stapleton  
 Stoke Golding  
 Shornford  
 Stoney Stanton  
 Stanton-under-Barden  
 Sapcote  
 Thurmaston  
 Thorpe  
 Thorpe Aere  
 Thorpe Satchville  
 Thriakstoe  
 Thurstaston  
 Thornton  
 Whitwick  
 Wimeswould  
 Whetstone  
 Walton-on-the-Woulds  
 Wigston-two-Steeple  
 Willoughby Waterless  
 Woodhouse  
 Woodhouse Eaves

Total - 11183

### DERBY

#### AND THE COUNTY.

Ashburn  
 Allestree  
 Alfreton  
 Ashover  
 Ashford  
 Breaston  
 Bolsover  
 Brampton  
 Baslow  
 Bakewell  
 Bonsall  
 Blackwell  
 Belper

Belper Lane  
 Bull Hill  
 Breadsall  
 Chester (Little)  
 Cocksbench  
 Codnor  
 Chaddesden  
 Crich  
 Cromford  
 Calver  
 Castleton  
 Chesterfield  
 Dale Abbey  
 Draycote  
 Darley Dale  
 Denby  
 Duffield  
 DERBY  
 Eaton (Little)  
 Frittesly  
 Green Lane  
 Grindleford Bridge  
 Higham  
 Heage  
 Heanor  
 Horseley  
 Horseley Woodhouse  
 Holbrook  
 Hadden  
 Ilkeston  
 Kirk Ireton  
 Kilbourn  
 Loscoe  
 Litton  
 Lewcote Gate  
 Little Over  
 Long Eaton  
 Morton  
 Marriott Moor  
 Matlock  
 Measham  
 Melbourn  
 Ockbrook  
 Over Hadden  
 Pentridge  
 Pinxton  
 Quorn  
 Ripley

Ridings  
 Rowsley  
 Risley  
 Stanton  
 Sinder-hill  
 Spondon  
 Smalley  
 Sandiacre  
 Stanton-by-Dale  
 Swanwick  
 Shirland  
 Somercote  
 Smisby  
 Sawley  
 Taddington  
 Tideswell  
 Tibshelf  
 Toad-hole  
 Wandsley  
 Wingfield South  
 Wessington  
 Wirksworth

Total - 4700

### GLOUCESTER, AND THE COUNTY.

Bredon  
 Bristol  
 Cheltenham  
 Cirencester  
 Deerhurst  
 Dursley  
 Gloucester  
 Leigh  
 Northleach  
 Northstoke  
 Pemmerton  
 Tewksbury  
 Twining  
 Thurley  
 Winchcombe  
 Woodchester

Total - 970

*COUNTY of DEVON.*

Barnstaple  
Exeter  
Plymouth Dock

Total - - 38

*COUNTIES of WILTS,  
SURRY and BERKS.*

Croydon  
Crompton  
Farncomb  
Godalming  
Salisbury  
Wanborough  
Windsor

Total - - 130

*COUNTIES of MIDDLE-  
SEX, ESSEX, and KENT.*

Canterbury  
Colchester  
Dover  
Deptford  
Faversham  
Greenwich  
LONDON

Total - - 137

*COUNTIES of OXFORD,  
and NORTHAMPTON.*

Althorpe  
Banbury (Oxon)  
Chacombe  
Daventry  
Flewer  
Meadford  
Middletoncheyney

Pattashall  
Slapston  
Shatford  
Northbaston (Oxon)  
Towcester

Total - - 214

*COUNTY of NORFOLK.*

Norwich  
Thetford

Total - - 23

*YORK,  
AND THE COUNTY.*

Attercliffe  
Barnsley  
Beverley  
Bradford  
Doncaster  
Dobcross  
East Moor\*  
Gisborough  
Halifax  
Huddersfield  
Hull  
Leeds  
Leadgate  
Newton  
Ripon  
Rotherham  
Sheffield  
Saddleworth  
Wakefield  
York  
Yarm

Total - - 172

*LANCASTER,  
AND THE COUNTY.*

Blackburn  
Chorley  
Lancaster  
Liverpool  
Manchester  
Preston  
Rochdale

Total - - 75

*WORCESTER,  
AND THE COUNTY.*

Bromsgrove  
Evesham  
Kidderminster  
Pershore  
Upton  
Worcester

Total - - 48

*CHESHIRE and CAR-  
NARVONSHIRE.*

Aberconway  
Chester  
Macclesfield  
Stockport

Total - - 17

*COUNTIES of STAF-  
FORD and SALOP.*

Birmingham  
Newcastle  
Stafford  
Shrewsbury  
Tutbury  
Uttoxeter  
Wolverhampton

Total - - 46

\* An ingenious person of the name of Clapham, residing in this village, discovered the mode of making lamb's wool yarn, about the year 1799.

### CUMBERLAND, NORTHUMBERLAND, and WESTMORELAND.

Alnwick  
Berwick  
Carlisle  
Cockermouth  
Kendal  
Newcastle  
Wigton  
Wooler

Total - 50

### LINCOLN, AND THE COUNTY.

Boston  
Grimsby  
Horncastle  
Keelby  
Lincoln  
Loceby  
Marton

Total - 27

### WARWICK, AND THE COUNTY.

Bedworth  
Coventry  
Kineton  
Nuneaton  
Warwick

Total - 50

### SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen  
Air  
Airdray  
Airbroath

Total - 100

Bamff  
Bathgate  
Biggar  
Cupar  
Coupar  
Coldstream  
Dunse  
Dunholme  
Dundee  
Dumfries  
Edinburgh  
Falkirk  
Glasgow  
Galashiels  
Hawick  
Haddington  
Hamilton  
Irving  
Jedburgh  
Kelso  
Kincardine  
Killardry  
Lanark  
Linlithgow  
Moffatt  
Mussellburgh  
Montrose  
Peebles  
Poisby  
Perth  
Renfrew  
Selkirk  
Stanraen  
Stirling

Total - 1449

### IRELAND.

Armagh  
Athmailey  
Athlone  
Ballynasloe

Bandon  
Belfast  
Balbriggan  
Bulruddering  
Cullon  
Clownis  
Couthil  
Coleraine  
Carvon  
Cork  
Clonmell  
Carlow  
DUBLIN  
Drogheda  
Dungannon  
Donaghadee  
Galway  
Inniskillen  
Lurgan  
Londonderry  
Longford  
Lisburne  
Limerick  
Monaghan  
Newry  
Newton Stewart  
Omagh  
Rathcoale  
Strabane  
Sligo  
Tanderagee

Total - 976

### FRANCE.\*

Amiens  
Abbeville  
Arras  
Besancon  
Castres  
Chartres  
Clermont

\* The notion so generally entertained of there being many thousands of frames in Lyons is erroneous; there being only about 1800 in that city, and about 1100 in Paris and its vicinity.

To the foregoing table the following subdivision of the framework-knitting trade into its manifold and diversifying branches will, it is hoped, be highly gratifying to those readers that are least acquainted with the trade of Nottingham; and to those that are acquainted with it, it cannot fail to be entertaining. But to guard all persons against being led astray by it, in their connective concerns and immediate calculations, it is necessary to state, that these branches or divisions are ever on the fluctuation, and frequently too to an amazing extent. It is necessary to state further,

that the calculations were made in 1812, from information collected by persons who took an actual survey of the trade, or from persons that had incidentally resided in the various places where it is carried on in the British empire, the relative divisions of the foreign part of the trade not here being taken into the account. But, notwithstanding every possible attention was paid to come at the truth, this table is not professed to be correct, because correctness on such occasions is not attainable, even by government itself. The table will be found of the most use in ten, twenty, or fifty years to come, when some of the branches may be extinct, or nearly so, and when the inquiring mind will find some satisfaction by comparative investigation. The number given to each branch, is what were supposed as therein employed.

## SUBDIVISIONS.

Plain cotton hose, from 14 to 22 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1600	}	7589
Plain cotton hose, from 24 to 28 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2600		
Plain cotton hose, from 30 to 36 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2289		
Plain cotton hose, from 38 to 54 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1100		
Gause cotton hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		350
Plain cotton pieces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		250
Plain cotton gloves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		350
Drawers and pantaloons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		530
Sandals, gaiters, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		370
Socks (ancles and feet)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		180
Angola and Merino hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		350
Plain worsted hose, from 12 to 20 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2600	}	5650
Plain worsted hose, from 22 to 26 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2100		
Plain worsted hose, from 28 to 34 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	950		
Gause worsted hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		250
Lambs' wool hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		900
Thread hose*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		350
Plain worsted and <i>double-loop</i> pieces†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		1500
Cotton caps	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		200
Worsted caps	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		120
Petticoats, shirts, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		300
Fleecy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		110
Plain silk hose, from 23 to 26 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1150	}	1400
Plain silk hose, from 28 to 36 gauge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250		
Silk gloves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		320
Silk purses and pieces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		20
Silk ribbed hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		56
Cotton ribbed hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		750
Worsted ribbed hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		2750

\* It should be stated, that these frames are principally employed in Scotland

† This double-loop work must not be mistaken for the double-lap warp work, it being a very different thing. This is produced upon a plain frame, by the simple operation of pressing two courses over the needle-heads at once—every second course being left in an unpressed state at the needle-heads while the jacks are drawn for the next. Thus a double-loop work is produced.



Ribbed (common) pieces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600
British ribbed pieces*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1800
Silk spider and shammies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
Cotton spider hose and pieces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	340
Silk knotted hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	260
Elastic hose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Square-net	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Double-lap warp pieces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320
Jack'warp pieces†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Warp sashes and braces	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
Warp net, from six to eight course inclusive, and mechlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190	}
Two course	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	
Silk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	}
Point-net double silk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	700	
Single silk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320	}
Single and double press cotton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	
Twist-net	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	140
Total in Great Britain and Ireland										-	29588

There is an old proverb which says, "The little smith of Nottingham that does the work which no man can do." The etymon of which has been attempted to be discovered by various ways; but its origin is now of no importance. Suffice it to say, that no proverb was ever supported better, if we refer to the smiths of this town in general, but particularly if we refer to the *framesmiths*; for to their mechanical judgment and dexterity in workmanship, it is owing, in a great degree, that the stocking frame and the various machines which are appended to it, have been brought to such perfection.‡

The setters-up too merit no small share of praise for their inventive skill, and their nicety in adjustment. The declension of the various branches of the trade, within the last few years, has driven many of these practical mechanics from this town, and to other businesses; and not a few have sought refuge in America.

### COTTON YARN.

The name of Nottingham will ever be coupled with the invention of manufacturing this article with the greatest pride, as will shortly appear, though the business has not been prosecuted here to

\* Under this head are comprehended those frames employed in making ribbed pieces, which double the ordinary stoutness in their manufacturing operations, by doubling the loops on the machine in pressing only every other course. Some Germanized Englishman gave to these pieces the name of *German-ribs*, when attempts were made to barbarize English manners by the introduction of the German military costume, in the same manner as the native tenderness was sought to be extracted from the bosoms of our ladies, and bloody notions infused therein, by decorating their heads with *Suwarrow bonnets*, in commemoration of that savage monster's deeds—Britain must not thus be robbed of her fame!!

† These articles are so called from the warp machine being applied to a plain frame—the jacks make the common loops, and the machine laps the work upon the needle-heads; and thus double work is produced, with an imitation of ribs.

‡ In 1807, there were 47 master framesmiths (the highest number ever known) many of whom had large establishments of journeymen and apprentices—in 1815, there were but 29, and these generally with small establishments.

any thing like the extent which it has been at Manchester and various other parts of Lancashire, as well as in Derbyshire. And, as many persons may read this history that are strangers to the great importance of which cotton wool is to this country, a few words on the subject of its production may not be unacceptable to them, and may not be considered obtrusive by those who possess more general information.

In China, Abyssinia, and the East Indies, cotton wool is produced from an annual shrub, about the size of a currant bush, called *gossypium*, and which unfolds the cotton from a pod about the size of a common hazle nut ; though in the latter country the *arboreum* or cotton tree is well known ; and it is now cultivated in America and the West Indies to great advantage. The pod of this tree, which grows to the size of a hen's egg, informs the cultivator of the proper time of plucking by the bursting of the shell ; and after it is gathered, and the wool is separated from the husk, in a mill calculated for that purpose, the wool is put into bags which contain from 300 to 320 pounds weight, and is trodden down in the same manner as hops are when bagged in this country.—The best cotton wool in general use is brought from Tobago in the West Indies, Demerara, in the province of Surinam, and the Brazils. There is a species of cotton wool produced in the West Indies, principally as an article of curiosity, called *Siam cotton*, from the seed having been brought from the country of that name ; but the filaments are so exceedingly fine and soft, as to make articles manufactured of it more costly than silk.

The method of spinning cotton yarn, previous to the invention of Jennies, was by plying at a domestic machine, well known among the provincial housewives by the name of a *long* or *one-thread wheel*. But, as the demand for our cotton goods increased, the ingenuity of our countrymen was set to work to devise means for expediting the various processes in the manufacturing of such goods. About the year 1737, a person of the name of *Paul*, in London, contrived an engine, with which he fancied he could spin a number of threads at one time, and for which he obtained a patent ; but the scheme proved altogether abortive. Various other persons made similar attempts, and with like success, till James Hargrave, a weaver in the neighbourhood of Blackburn, in Lancashire, contrived a machine, in the year 1767, which he called a jenny, and upon which he spun eight threads at once. Mr. Hargrave obtained a patent for this machine, and he caused a building to be erected at the north-east corner of a street in Nottingham, which from that circumstance obtained the name of Mill-street, wherein his machinery was first set to work in a proper manner. The jenny is the best contrivance hitherto discovered for spinning the yarn used in the woof ; and it was soon constructed for spinning 84 threads ; and with it one person can spin 100 hanks in the day, each hank measuring 840 yards.

Mr. Hargrave also improved the art of carding cotton wool, by affixing two or three cards to a stock or stool, with which one woman could do as much work as three by the ordinary means of carding on the knee—these cards obtained the name of *stock-cards*. A still more expeditious mode of carding was shortly after invented, in the application of cylindric-cards ; but the inventor's name seems to be forgotten, except the matter could be traced to the unfortunate John Hayse, of whom we are about to say a few words. And, as what I shall state on the subject as connected with this man, will clash with what appears on the subject of cotton spinning in some of the

Encyclopedias and other publications, which give all the praise to the late Sir Richard Arkwright, it is necessary for me to premise, that I had the account from a person of credit, that was many years employed as a practical mechanic in the cotton spinning business in Lancashire, and who was personally acquainted with Hayse; and further the testimony is supported by every person with whom I have conversed on the subject, that knew the parties at the time.

John Hayse and Richard Arkwright, the former a turner of wood, and the other a barber, resided as neighbours at Preston, in Lancashire, Arkwright, from the nature of his business, having much loose time on his hands, would frequently spend a few hours in Hayse's shop, and who, very probably, had a taste for mechanism himself. During these hours of conversation, Hayse informed Arkwright, that he felt confident he had discovered the art of spinning cotton by means of rollers, and shewed him the instruments he had made for accomplishing his object. Arkwright *now began to think for himself*, but, not having the means of applying his acquired knowledge to any prosperous purpose, he opened his views *in part* to a person of the name of Smalley who had some money, and who encouraged him, *though quite unnecessarily* to glean every particle of information on the subject from Hayse, without giving the latter any suspicion of their intention. Arkwright repeated his visits to the shop of his unsuspecting friend, and never failed, though frequently lightly and jocosely, to make the subject of cotton spinning the burden of their conversation. Hayse sometimes urged by motives of vanity to display his superior skill, and sometimes by irritation at being contradicted by Arkwright, frequently exhibited his little machinery, till the latter obtained a correct knowledge of its movements and application. He then obtained money from Smalley with which he proceeded to Nottingham, there being much cotton yarn consumed by the hosiery business in that town—there being many capitalists for the encouragement of genius in mechanical invention; and its being also known that Nottingham contained some excellent practical mechanics. Arkwright had also another object in view for coming to Nottingham—he was fearful lest Hayse should hear what he was about, and find a friend to push his previous claim at the patent office. Our adventurer succeeded in all his views at Nottingham—from the ingenuity of one Hallam, a cabinet-maker, his machinery received much of its perfection; and the monied men of the town found him the means of prosecuting the new inventions; and in 1769, he obtained a patent in his own name for spinning cotton yarn according to the specifications which he had then produced. Mr. Arkwright now took up his regular residence in Nottingham, and he soon found the means of erecting a cotton mill, which he did on a piece of ground between Woolpack-lane and Hockley in this town, and which was the first cotton mill erected in the world.\* In 1772, the validity of this patent was tried and found to be good. In 1775, Mr. Arkwright obtained another patent, which, from its being represented of a general nature, very probably comprehended the operations of carding and roving; but its validity was tried in 1781, and a verdict was given against him. In 1785, Mr. Arkwright brought the question of this patent again into court, and gained a verdict in its favor; but his opponents did not long

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\* The mill was burnt down in a few years after it was built, and another was erected upon the site

suffer him to enjoy its benefit in quiet, for they once more brought the matter into court, and he finally lost on the ground of his not working according to his own specifications.

On the 29th of June, 1791, the foundation was laid of Mr. Robert Denison's cotton mill, on a plot of ground between Pennyfoot-lane and Poplar-place; and on the 10th of October, 1792, the machinery was set to work. It contained 3024 spindles, and gave employment to 300 persons; and was altogether the most handsome and largest manufactory ever erected in Nottingham. The war carried on against the French Republic caused this great concern to be shut up from the 8th of March, 1794, to the 2d of June, 1801, when it was re-opened by Messrs. Oates, Stephens, and Co. and during the night of the 28th of November, 1802, it was discovered to be on fire, and such was the fury of the flames, that the utmost exertions of an anxious and sympathising population that crowded around, aided by engines, were unavailing; and the entire machinery with the greater part of the shell were consumed by the devouring element. And the ground on which it stood was afterwards cleared and converted into gardens. A fine engraving was made from a drawing of Mr. Barber's which exhibits the terrific grandeur of the awful scene.

George Oldfield Needham, a native of, and now a resident in Nottingham, by dint of a strong mechanical genius and from information obtained by being many years employed in cotton mills, in 1813, brought to perfection several machines for improving and simplifying the arts of carding, roving, and spinning cotton wool. He offered his machinery to some of the great cotton manufacturers in Lancashire; but they scouted it, on the ground of their present machinery being rendered useless, if they adopted Mr. Needham's, and the great expense which must be occasioned by the change. He then applied to the Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce in London; and the following recommendation will shew the manner in which he was received.

LONDON, 23d FEBRUARY, 1815.

*To the Right Honorable Lord Sidmouth, Secretary of State for the Home Department.*

We the undersigned members of the committee of mechanics, of the society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, earnestly recommend to your Lordship's notice, the cotton carding and spinning machines, invented by Mr. Needham, which have undergone a minute and laborous examination by the undersigned, who have brought under their view the various machines now employed in this important branch of British manufactures. By their examination they have ascertained that Mr. Needham's machines are not only highly ingenious and simple, but decidedly superior to any of the kind now in use, and promise to be of great public utility in the manufacturing of cotton. The very limited funds of this society, together with its established regulations for rewarding of meritorious inventions, could only procure for Mr. Needham a pecuniary vote of forty guineas and the honorary gold medal.—These rewards, although small in their amount, mark in the highest degree the opinion of the undersigned, and the general body of the society on the subject of Mr. Needham's inventions. The undersigned have been induced to make this application to your Lordship in behalf of Mr. Needham, not only because he is in very reduced circumstances, occasioned by his exertions in bringing his machines to perfection; but because they feel it to be their duty to express the distinguished sense in which they hold his inventions, and to recommend to your Lordship to procure him the countenance and reward of government, commensurate with the importance of his inventions for the manufacture of all denominations of cotton.

This application was signed by Thomas Gill, chairman of the committee, residing at No. 83, St. James's-street, London, and by twenty-six others, many of whom added their professions, such

as mechanist and engineer, mathematical instrument-maker, mechanical draughtsman, &c. And on the subject being laid before the Lords of Council forming the Board of Trade, one hundred pounds was presented to Mr. Needham, as a temporary relief.—Notwithstanding the application says, that Mr. Needham received only forty guineas from the society, we find the two following items in the statement printed by the society on the 30th May, 1815, in which the rewards are all named and numbered :—" 57. To Mr. George O. Needham, Bishop's-row, Nottingham, for improved " carding and spinning machinery, the gold medal, and forty guineas.—58. To Mr. George O. Needham, of Nottingham, for an improved roving machine, twenty guineas."

There is another gentleman that has added much to the mechanical fame of Nottingham, in the manufacture of cotton yarn, or *twist*, and also much to the credit, as well as to the interest of the kingdom, by rendering it independent of foreign nations for the thread of which bone-lace is made, an article which used to be imported from Flanders. *Mr. Samuel Cartledge*, a native and constant resident of this town, by applying his genius to mechanical pursuits, in 1805, brought to perfection the spinning of cotton yarn sufficiently fine, and possessing a sufficient degree of twist, of which to manufacture bone or bobbin-lace. But, before he could get it properly introduced into the trade, he had to contend with the long established prejudices of Buckinghamshire, &c. and with the interest of the importers of and dealers in Flanders thread, which was invariably made of flax. In one instance he sold a quantity to a Buckinghamshire manufacturer, without the latter knowing it was made of cotton, and, though he highly admired the lace produced from it, when he afterwards learnt the nature of its composition, he condemned it altogether, and gave all his interest against its sale. Mr. Cartledge, however, much to his credit, persevered; and the following resolution, unanimously passed at a general meeting of the Buckinghamshire lace-manufacturers, held at the Swan inn, Newport-Pagnell, the 20th of February, 1815, will prove the sense in which they *now* hold Mr. Cartledge's merits, though he has many competitors to contend with in the business.\*

" *Resolved.* That it is the opinion of this meeting, that Mr. Samuel Cartledge, of Nottingham, " is entitled to the thanks of the lace-manufacturers *for his invention of cotton thread*, used in " the manufacture of British lace; and for his introduction of the same to the trade on liberal " terms. And that the chairman do communicate this resolution to Mr. Cartledge "

Upon a very moderate calculation it is presumed, that Mr. Cartledge's invention has added thirty thousand pounds annually to the productive labour of the country.

## WORSTED MILLS.

In the year 1788, Mr. Robert Davison and Mr. John Hawksley erected a worsted mill in this town, on the north bank of the Leen, where now stands Navigation-row. It was burnt down in 1791; and shortly afterwards these gentlemen erected another mill, on a very extensive scale, the works being driven by an engine of sixty-horse power. The site of its erection was on a plot of

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\* Newport-Pagnell may be considered in the same point of view with respect to the bone-lace, as Nottingham is in the framework-knitting business.

ground, contiguous to the east side of the road leading into Arnold from Nottingham, and which, in the old writings belonging to the estate, is called *Arnot Hill*. The death of Mr. Davison, and some heavy losses in 1809, added to the already incumbered state of the concern, caused the final stoppage of this manufactory, the materials of which, to the very foundation, were sold and taken away; and, on the 5th of February, 1810, Mr. Hawksley laid the foundation of another mill, which required an engine of twenty-horse power, in Butcher's-close, Nottingham; and he left the delightful habitation at Arnot Hill, surrounded with plantations, gardens, and hot-houses, and removed with his family to Snenton. On the 8th of October following, the mill in Butcher's-close was set to work; and, for a time, it was thought that the concern would enable Mr. Hawksley to rise above the pecuniary difficulties which bore heavy upon him; but in this expectation his friends were disappointed; for his difficulties increased—he died suddenly in January, 1815—the mill was stopt; and, in the succeeding November, the works were sold by public auction for the benefit of the creditors.\*

In 1809, the works belonging to Arkwright's cotton mill in Hockley were sold; and in two years after it was converted into a worsted mill, with an engine of fourteen-horse power, by the firm of Cole, Huddleston, and Phipps.

### SILK.

This article is certainly of very great importance to Nottingham, and as such it might be expected that I should enter into its natural history; but, as that subject has been so often and so ably handled by various writers, I shall confine myself to the giving a few dates when this admirable production was introduced from one country to another.

We find silk first mentioned as the production of China, whence it was introduced into Persia at a very early period; and from Persia it was brought into Greece, about 320 years before the birth of Christ. It seems to have been little known in Rome till the time of Heliogabalus, who died in the year 220, as that emperor was the first person that wore a robe made entirely of silk, which robe was then called *Holoserica*. Silk was exchanged for its weight in gold in the reign of Aurelian, who died in 275, as appears from the answer of that emperor to his wife when she asked permission to wear a silken robe, which favor he refused by saying, “that he was far from valuing “thread and gold at the same price.”† In 555, some monks brought a quantity of silk-worm's eggs from India to Constantinople, where raw silk was soon produced in abundance, which, for a considerable time, was manufactured into garments at Athens, Corinth, and other Grecian cities. In 780, Charlemagne sent two silken vests as a present to Offa, king of Mercia, which appears to have been the first time that silk was seen in England. In 1130, Roger, king of Sicily, introduced

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\* The Rev. Edmund Cartwright obtained the following patents *for combing sheeps' wool*, viz. one on the 3d of August, 1789, one on the 11th of December, 1790, one on the 15th of May, 1792, and one on the 4th of July, 1797; and Mr. Hawksley obtained one for the same purpose on the 8th of June, 1793. Mr. Hawksley assigned the right of his patent to Mr. Cartwright for a fourth share of the profits of the whole; and, on the 2d of July, 1801, the latter gentleman obtained an act of parliament for extending his right to the above patents, consolidated and improved, for fourteen years longer, Mr. Hawksley still reserving his share as before.

† See Manners and Customs of the Romans.

silk-worms, and silk-manufacturers also into his dominions from Greece, and settled them at Palermo; whence the arts of producing and manufacturing the silk soon found their way into Italy and France. Silk mantles were first worn in England by some ladies at a ball, held at Kennelworth castle in Warwickshire, in 1286; and silk was first manufactured in this country in 1504, but it was not brought to any thing like perfection till 1620. James the First and Second expended great sums of money in attempting to propagate the silk-worm; but the atmosphere of our climate was found to be too changeable to admit of so great a national advantage. About the year 1716, Mr. John Lombe brought the plan of an organzine silk mill from Italy at the risk of his life; and in 1718, he obtained a patent for the organzining of raw silk, and about the same time he erected a mill for this purpose at Derby. He afterwards petitioned parliament for a renewal of his patent, on the ground of his not having obtained a sufficient remuneration for his imminent risk for his country's benefit and the great expenses he had been at; but this was refused, and, as a compensation parliament voted him £14,000, and his brother Thomas received the honor of knighthood, as a partner in the concern.

There have been various silk mills erected in Nottingham, viz. Elliott's, in Sheep-lane, Bolton's, on the Low-pavement, Watson and Nelson's, in Fletcher-gate, &c. but the only one now of any importance is that belonging to John Fellows, Esq. in Turncalf-alley, and in which 2800 swifts are employed.

The silk of which Nottingham lace is made, is brought in an organzined state from Italy; while that of which stockings are made is principally brought from China and the East Indies; the latter, from its size and softness, being the best calculated for stockings, while, for the same properties, it is not calculated for lace. The silk of which black stockings are generally made is known among the workmen by the name of *Novi*: hence many of them conclude it to be Italian silk—the mistake arises from its being reeled after the *Novi* manner.

### ***PIN AND WIRE-DRAWING MANUFACTORY, &c.***

Mr. Henry Redgate carries on an extensive concern of this sort in Hounds'-gate, the wire-drawing business being carried on by his father; to which, in 1807, he added that of pin-making, and he erected an engine of six-horse power to drive his works. He also pursues the business of wire-weaving and wire fender making, to a considerable extent; as likewise does Mr. Samuel Wood, at the Leen-side; though the latter gentleman has all his work done by the hand.

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Formerly there were two glasshouses in this town; one at the east end of Snenton-street, of very large dimensions, and one between Charlotte-street and York-street, near the end of Glasshouse-lane; but within about the last fifty years they have both disappeared, nor has glass ware of any consequence been made in them during that time. There were likewise two potteries within the last thirty years, one on the east side of Milton-street, and the other near the bottom of Beck-lane. But the clay was principally brought from a considerable distance, which added so much to the cost of the pots, as to prevent the proprietors maintaining a competition with the Staffordshire dealers.

**BANKS.**

The bank of Samuel Smith, Esq. and Co. was in being in 1702, and John Smith, Esq. the patron of this history, informs me, that the family have reason to believe, that it was established in 1700, though the precise date was not to be found. The bank of John and Ichabod Wright, Esqrs. and Co. was established in 1759.\* The bank of Moore, Maltby, Evans, and Middlemore, was established in 1802.† The bank of Fellows, Mellor, and Hart, was established on the 1st of January, 1808; and that of Rawson, Inkersole, Rawson, and Co. on the 10th of November in the same year.

As to physicians, surgeons, apothecaries, and solicitors, their numbers will always be regulated by the population, the misfortunes, the follies, and the vices of mankind.

**CHAPTER IX.****THE CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL GOVERNMENT OF THE TOWN.**

**T**HIS town is governed, in its civil department, by seven aldermen, one of whom is annually chosen mayor, twenty-four councilmen, a recorder, who holds the office during life, two sheriffs, two chamberlains, and two coroners; all of whom, as a matter of course, must be burgesses of the town. But, before we speak of the power of these constituted authorities, we will drop a few words on the origin of a burgess, and on the town's prescriptive and chartered rights.

Camden calls Nottingham a city, which Deering supposes he does from its having been a walled town. Deering is here mistaken; for it was a city, in the English sense of the word, in Camden's time, in consequence of its then having a suffragan bishop, the office of which was last filled by Richard Barnes, who was consecrated in 1558. Nottingham with 25 other towns, was created a bishopric in 1534, all of which have ceased to be so; but when Nottingham lost that distinctive appellation, it resumed its ancient title of borough, which it holds by prescription, that is, antecedently to the existence of its charters.§

\* The mansion of John Wright, Esq. at Lenton, was erected in 1804.

† This firm was dissolved at the close of 1815, in consequence of the death of three of the partners; and on the 1st of January, 1816, the banking business was proceeded in, under the firm of Moore, Maltby, and Robinson; the present Moore being son of the former.

§ Blackstone, however, asserts, that a town's once having been a bishopric gives it the right to continue the title of city ever after, as a proof of which he names Westminster.



Borough springs from the Saxon *Borhoe*, or *Bond*, which arose from a number of families uniting in a bond of mutual protection, and living in a congregated body ; and the spot which they inhabited, whether they were migrative or stationary, was called *Borhoe*, or *Borough*, as our orthographers have long since rendered it. When the Saxons invaded this country they naturally imported their language and manners—hence the word borough took its rise in England ; and every adult male that resided in a borough, vassals excepted, was a burgess ; i. e. a freeman of a borough.

The abject effeminacy which came from the east, and insinuated itself into the habits and manners of the Romans, very probably would have reduced the political state of Europe to the standard of Asiatic slavery, had not thousands fled into the wild and bleak regions of the north, where necessity made them brave, and where liberty became the dearer to them, from their having to defend it with their toil, their privations, and their lives. Though each of these hordes, or clans, was governed by its respective chief, his power, except in certain cases, was subordinate to the public will ; for, as plunder and reprisal formed the principal source of his revenue, soldiers became necessary to his support ; not to enable him to plunder his own people, for the moment a chief ceased to be the *protector* of his people they deposed or murdered him, and chose another ; no, his soldiers were for the defence of his clan, and to enable him to levy contributions upon those that he chose to call his enemies. Then, as an inducement for his adherents to arm in his and their own defence, every one thus enrolled was called a *freeman* of the clan, and as such enjoyed certain privileges. Their masculine limbs being thus furnished with weapons, and their minds with notions of independence, they found the importance of their congregated strength, and therefore often imposed terms upon their chieftains ; nor need we wonder that one of these terms generally was, that of being heard by themselves, or through the medium of their representatives in the *wittena-gemote* or parliament, *without the consent of which* as Blackstone justly says, *no new law could be made, or old one altered*. The freemen had likewise the right of electing the subordinate magistrates, &c. which rights and customs they bound themselves by oath at the altars of their deities to defend. Thus while the lordly Romans, the boasted civilizers of the world, were burying the noblest principles of the human mind in the sloth of Asiatic effeminacy, the hardy children of the north, that had fled to regions of frost and snow to avoid the conqueror's poisonous embrace, preserved the genuine spark of liberty from destruction, and carried it with them in their conquering excursions to foreign countries. And though the feudal system long smothered it, yet the extension of commerce, as has already been shewn, soon wafted it, in this country, again into a blaze.—Our Saxon ancestors that settled in Nottingham would establish therein their own system of civil polity ; and hence the origin of our prescriptive rights, which form the basis of the charters afterwards obtained.

The charter of king John, which was dated at Clypston, the 19th of March, 1199, expressly declares, “ If any person, in time of peace, whencesoever he comes, shall abide in this borough a year and a day, without being claimed by his lord, no one shall afterwards have legal claim of him, except the king himself.” The first sight of this passage naturally impresses the mind with an idea, that Nottingham was privileged by royal charter to be “ a city of refuge ;” a rallying

point against the galling manacles of slavery. May this honorable appellation long continue its due ! But has not the passage a meaning, as applicable to the local privileges of the town at the time the charter was granted ?—does it not imply, that every man that should reside a year and a day in the town, unclaimed by his former lord, whose service it presupposes he had quitted without permission, *should be a freeman or burgess of the borough* ? It certainly appears evident that this is the literal import and meaning of the passage ; though if we take the words *freeman* and *slave*, according to their present application, we shall not be borne out in the interpretation ; because all Britons are free, in the limited sense of the word, though few, comparatively speaking, are freemen by elective franchise ; but this was not the case when the charter in question was granted, as the feudal system then displayed the whole of its monstrous vigour, with distinctive appellations of freemen, socmen, villains, borderers, and slaves.\* By a reference to the last note it may be seen, that every class in society were more or less in a state of vassalage, except the freemen, who alone were entitled to the distinction of citizen of a city, and burgess of a borough.

And, as every species of subjection which depends upon caprice, for an extension of or a diminution of its severity, is diametrically opposed to freedom, the comparison certainly gives weight to the opinion, that every man, whatever his previous condition, who resided a year and a day in Nottingham, after the granting of the charter in question, without being claimed by his late master, became a burgess of the borough, and was thereby freed from all feudal subjection.

When the declension of the feudal system in some degree, equalized the political state of the people, and they were permitted to settle where fancy or interest directed, the easy manner of becoming a burgess of this town, with its influence of general enfranchisement, would induce many to make it the place of their abode, particularly as the burgesses enjoyed certain immunities, which will shortly fall more directly under our notice. To prevent an extensive deterioration of the burgess immunities, by so general an admission of participants, a plan would naturally suggest itself to those in power, of narrowing the means by which strangers became possessed of the freedom of the town ; and hence the following rules were adopted :—First, the eldest son of a burgess to have his freedom as his birthright, if born within the town ; secondly, all the younger sons of a burgess, if born in the town, providing they have served a regular apprenticeship in any part of England ; thirdly, all those persons to have their freedom, that serve a legal apprenticeship to a burgess within the liberties of the town ; fourthly, those to whom the corporation chose to

\* Soc, from the French, *soc*, a ploughshare, or service due from tenants to their lords.

SOCAGE, from *soc*, an ancient tenure by which tenants, i. e. *socmen*, were obliged to cultivate the land of their lords — *Dr. Ash*,

VILLAINS. These were persons of servile condition, bound to perform unlimited services. Their landlords could deprive them at pleasure, of their lands, goods, and chattels, and compel them to pay redemption money before they could give their daughters in marriage. N. B. The copyholders of the present day are the remains of this class of subjects.

BORDAR, borderer, or bordarii, from the French *bordier*. These were cottagers who supplied the lord of the manor with poultry and eggs.—*Rider's History of England*.

SLAVES. These were people that occupied the lowest and most servile station in life: they, in fact, were *slaves* to other *slaves*, and were strangers to the native dignity of man. They were sold like cattle in the market, like Africa's sun-burnt hopeless tribes, "whom christians 'buy and sell.'" On them the scourging lash could be exercised with impunity to gratify the savage lust of revenge, or the silly vanity of superiority ; and, in the midst of their sufferings, it was a crime to heave the heart-rending sigh.

sell the freedom ; and fifthly, those that have their freedom given to them by the corporation, as a mark of honor, or for services performed.\*

### *BURGESS OATH, AS TAKEN IN 1716.*

This hear ye—Mayor of this borough of Nottingham, recorder, sheriffs, and all other worshipful men, that I, A. B. shall be loyal and true to the king and to you, and to this town of Nottingham bear faith and truth, and to be obedient, and justifiable of my body and goods, and my chattels ; and to the officers and ministers of this town of Nottingham, and for the time of ministration of their offices, inasmuch as in me lies, I shall be attending, helping, and supporting ; and the counsel of the said town of Nottingham, I shall truly keep, and to no man shew it ; and the franchises of the said town I shall maintain and sustain with my body, my goods, and my chattels, to the utmost of my power, and that not let, neither for love nor dread, without regard of any man, but that I shall maintain the laws and good customs and franchises abovesaid, and truly bear and do duties and customs that I ought to do.---So help me God.

### *BURGESS OATH AS TAKEN AT THE PRESENT TIME.*

I, A. B. do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his majesty king George, and that I will be true and faithful to the mayor and burgesses of this town of Nottingham, and to my power maintain and defend the franchises, privileges, jurisdictions, and charters of this corporation, and perform, execute, and do all such duties, offices, and things, as I ought to do as a member of the same.---So help me God.†

## *LANDS AND OTHER IMMUNITIES BELONGING TO THE BURGESSES.*

The general opinion of well informed people is, that the charter of Henry the Second, which is dated in 1154, was the first charter which was granted to Nottingham, because it is the oldest extant, and because what it professes to grant, or rather to *confirm*, it calls “free customs,” and admits their existence long before. This charter secured to the burgesses *TOL*, *THEAM*, *INFANGENTHEOF*, and *THEOLONIA*. *Tol*, or *Tholl*, is a power to take, and a right to be free from toll. This, however, must be here taken in reference to the burgesses of this town only, as connected with this charter ; as they are still exempt from paying toll for bringing their goods to, and taking them from our fairs and markets, which other people are bound to pay to the

#### *\* Fees paid by burgesses on being admitted to their freedom, by birthright.*

	£.	s.	d.
Stamp duty - - - - -	-	1	0 0
To the town clerk - - - - -	-	0	1 6
For parchment containing the oath - - - - -	-	0	0 6
To the mayor's sergeant - - - - -	-	0	1 2
To the common sergeant - - - - -	-	0	1 2
To the churchwardens of St. Mary's towards keeping the church in repair - - - - -	-	0	0 1
To the bridgemasters towards keeping the Trent bridge in repair - - - - -	-	0	0 1
To the mayoress - - - - -	-	0	0 6
To the two pounders, the town cryer, and the keeper of the house of correction, 3d. each - - - - -	-	0	1 0
To be spent by the new made burgess - - - - -	-	0	0 6
		1	6 6
By those entitled from servitude, the same, with the addition to the chamberlains of 6s. 8d. - - - - -	-	1	13 2
The honorary burgesses and those that obtain by purchase 40s. additional stamp duty - - - - -	-	3	13 2

† In 1806, a clause was added expressive of the trade, calling, or occupation of the person sworn ; and also by what means he obtained his right.

corporation.\* *Theam*. The jurisdiction held by the lord of the manor in his court over the bondmen and villains within the boundaries of his manor. *Infangentheof*, or *Infangtheffe*, is a phrase in the Saxon language which implies a privilege in the lord of the manor of passing judgment upon any theft committed within his jurisdiction. It would really seem, from the then application of this ancient Saxon word, and the "free custom" incorporated by charter under its name, that the burgesses of Nottingham enjoyed the right of manor from the formation of the town into a Saxon borough, and that this right never was wholly abrogated, though the title of Lord of the Manor of Nottingham was enjoyed by various feudal lords. And, as a compromise between the burgesses on the one part, and William Peverel, their first feudal lord on the other, it is not unlikely that the latter, in consideration of reciprocal cessions, gave the burgesses the right of hunting and hawking on his forest manors; and hence the traditional opinion, that the burgesses of Nottingham had a right to hunt and hawke to the extent of the forest of Shirewood. *Theolonia* implies a right enjoyed by certain persons to be free from particular tolls. This charter freed the burgesses of Nottingham from toll or rather secured to them the said right as one of their "free customs," which might then have been disputed, from Thrumpton to Newark, and from all things passing over the Trent, from the brook beyond Rempston to the river at Retford and Vicker's Dyke. This privilege was afterwards extended by king John to all the fairs and marts in the kingdom.†

This charter of Henry the Third, which was signed at Westminster the 24th of February, 1229, granted to the burgesses the right of taking toll of all merchandize brought into the town; and likewise the right of choosing coroners from among themselves. The charter of Edward the First, bearing date at Lincoln the 11th of February, 1283, granted to the burgesses the right of electing a mayor and two bailiffs from among themselves, the chief magistrate having previously been called *Reeve*. By the charter of Henry the Fifth, which was signed at Leicester the 24th of May, 1414, the office of recorder was instituted; the mayor and four others, whom he had the power conferred upon him of nominating, were constituted justices of the peace; and the county magistrates were forbidden to interfere in the affairs of the town. The charter of Henry the Sixth not only confirmed the grants of foregoing charters, but it furnished the mayor and

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\* Until 1799, all grain brought to market was subject to a corporate toll; but in that year the question was contested in court, and the corporation lost the suit.

† A Nottingham burgess, as I am informed, by having his *oath* with him, is still freed from all city, borough, or corporate tolls in the kingdom, except the borough of Beverley and the town of Gainsborough, when going to or coming from fairs or market: how these two exceptions have crept in is not for me to say. We will here mention a circumstance of rather a singular nature, as connected with borough tolls:—The inhabitants of Ilkiston, in Derbyshire, pay only half toll for tollable articles which they carry to or from the boroughs of Nottingham and Derby, which immunity is guaranteed to them so long as they keep a gallows standing within the precincts of the village. The vulgar opinion is, that this privilege was granted to them by John of Gaunt, to whose memory a wooden figure is preserved in the chancel of that church, which represents a man of extraordinary size. But the more probable opinion is, that this privilege was obtained in consequence of a circumstance thus related:—During the space of time when the assizes were held at Nottingham for the two counties, a contagious distemper is said to have induced the judge to cause the court of assize to be held at Ilkiston, as being free from the distemper and as a point of medium between the two boroughs, at which time a man was condemned and executed at the village. And, in commemoration of the event, it was ordered, that as long as the inhabitants thereof should keep a gallows standing they should enjoy the immunity above named. This circumstance might happen in the days of John of Gaunt, and he might interest himself in procuring the grant; and thus tradition may have interwoven it with his name.

burgesses with a number of other privileges. It incorporated the town by the title of "Mayor and Burgesses of the town of Nottingham," and, from the 15th of September, 1449, separated it for ever from the body of the county, except the castle and its appendages, and the shire-hall and prison, with the additional title of "The county of the town of Nottingham." The bailiffs were changed into sheriffs, and the mayor was constituted the king's *escheator*. But what makes this charter of more importance is, that it gave the burgesses the power of choosing seven aldermen out of their own body, (one of whom to be annually elected mayor) who may hold the office during life, except some notable cause be assigned to the contrary: they were also authorized to wear scarlet gowns, &c. after the manner of the aldermen of London.\*

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It is a singular circumstance that no writer has yet attempted to prove how the burgesses of Nottingham became possessed of the land, which, at certain times of the year, they inherit as their own. But, without rambling among probabilities for the cause, which could only involve the character of the departed in suspicion, I will submit my humble efforts; as the real cause of others' silence on the subject is alike indifferent to me and harmless to the interest of the burgesses—they possess the land, under certain regulations and restrictions, and nothing but a national convulsion, or their own imprudence, can wrest it from their hands.

The only charter which mentions these lands, is that commonly called the *restoring charter*, granted by William and Mary shortly after the revolution in 1688. The words which relate to this subject are as follows:—"And of our abundant grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have given, granted, restored, confirmed and ratified, and by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, do grant, restore, confirm and ratify, to the mayor and burgesses of the town of Nottingham and their successors, all manors, messuages, mills, revenues, lands, tenements, tithes, meadows, grounds, pastures, common-rights, feasts, fairs, markets, together with all powers, prescriptions, liberties, privileges, franchises, immunities, jurisdictions, charters, letters patent of incorporation, customs, profits, offices, officers, exceptions, acquittances, unclaimed lands, wastes, easements, emoluments, goods, chattels, and hereditaments, and all such things as by the letters patent of the said king James the First, bearing date 12th of February in the 20th of his reign over England, France, and Ireland, and the 56th over Scotland, and all others kings and queens of England, our ancestors, to the said mayor and burgesses were given, granted, and confirmed."

In this extract the reader will not find any mention made of *new grants*; but simply a recapitulation of rights, immunities, and privileges long enjoyed, and which had been partly abrogated to suit political purposes in the infamous reign of Charles the Second. And the principal things named in this extract, have reference to the chamber estates, of which the burgesses, in their individual burgess capacities, are nothing but nominal proprietors, and to the property of

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\* In 1803, an act was passed which militates much against the chartered rights of the town; but more of this in a proper place.

which the corporation are the guardians for the maintenance of the Free-school and the Trent bridges. No, we must seek elsewhere for the original tenure of the burgess lands.

It is, I know, maintained by many, without any shew of authority or reason, that the burgess land was given by James the First. This, however, could not be the case, for James had no lands to give in this neighbourhood, except Shirwood Chase ; and from this description of land the property we are speaking of had been long separated.

Others again are willing to believe, as no charter extant mentions the original grant, that the *supposed* one of Henry the First contained this important bequest ; and this too, merely because king John's charter confirms to the burgesses all the free customs their predecessors had enjoyed in the reign of the First and Second Henry. This opinion is as vague as the one just noticed ; for the charter of Henry the Second expressly names the privileges and "free customs" it alludes to, the principal of which had been held by prescription ; and were now secured by charter. Besides, it is impossible that the land in question could be disposed of by Henry the First, since it was in the possession of the Peverels till the reign of Henry the Second. Camden says, "William Peverel, lord of Nottingham, had a son of the same name, who died during his father's life-time, and he had likewise a son William deprived of his estates by Henry the Second, for combining with the wife of Ranulph, Earl of Chester, who was youngest daughter of the Earl of Gloucester, to poison the said Earl her husband." As an atonement for his crime, and to ward off the vengeance of the injured husband, the amorous and hypocritical Peverel put on the garb of a monk, and took shelter in Lenton Abbey. But the justice of the king shone most conspicuous on this occasion, for he deprived Peverel of his estates in this county, and gave them to the Earl of Chester ; but this ungrateful nobleman did not enjoy them long, for, joining the rebellion of young Henry (whom his over indulgent father had caused to be crowned as his successor,) he justly forfeited those wreaths of royal munificence, which compassion for his wrongs had bound on his brow. On this subject Dr. Thoroton speaks as follows :—"Howbeit the said Ranulph, Earl of Chester did not enjoy any long possession of those places in this county, for the sheriffs answered to the king for the profits of the lands of William Peverel, and the scutage of the tenants of fee, as in the pipe rolls of Henry the Second."

From the time of this unnatural rebellion, till John, Earl of Morton, had the earldoms of Nottingham and Derby conferred upon him by Richard the First, the lands in question continued in the possession of the crown. And there can be little doubt that Richard behaved thus bountifully to his capricious brother, partly from affection, and partly to secure him to his interest while he went on his intended crusade to Palestine. And though the perfidious John sought to seize upon the crown in his brother's absence, and thereby lost the command of our castle for a time, yet Richard, as generous as brave, restored him to favor soon after his return. Thus it appears, that the lands we are speaking of were in the possession of John at the time of his elevation to the throne ; and from this and other circumstances we will endeavour to prove how they became the property of the burgesses.

John's attachment to the people of Nottingham has been noticed already, in consequence of the aids he received from them in his attempts to obtain the crown. It has also been stated that he

had granted to the town a merchant's guild. Now, as John owed so much to the people of Nottingham, and possessed such ample means of rewarding their fidelity when he came to the throne, can it be supposed that he would grant them a merchant's guild, and not furnish the body so constituted with the means of appearing respectable in their congregated capacity, as soon as he saw it right so to do? The property which he possessed as Earl of Morton, Nottingham, and Derby, must have been immense, independently of the revenues of the crown; consequently he could well spare a part of it as a reward to his friends for past services; and, to secure their fidelity in future, common policy too would dictate the measure, lest they should treat him as they, at his instigation, had treated his brother Richard, and lest they should remember him for the murder of his nephew Arthur. Hence it is fair to conclude that John gave the lands within the liberties of Nottingham, which had formerly belonged to the house of Peverel, to the merchants' guild. The circumstance too of the title of Earl of Nottingham lying dormant more than a century after John's accession to the throne, gives material weight to this opinion; for if the title had retained its appendages of wealth, it would not have lain so long without some favorite having obtained it as a grace to his dignity and fame.

Against this hypothesis, however, two objections may be stated, namely, if John gave the land to the fraternity of merchants, how came the burgesses by it? and why not give it to them rather than to a few men forming a select body? To which it might be hastily replied—if John gave the land to the burgesses, why is that important circumstance omitted to be named in the charter which he granted them? Here is question opposed to question; and perhaps a little argument on the subject will obviate the obstacles to their solution.

John granted the charter which constituted the merchants' guild, and ensured to the burgesses at large the "free customs" and privileges they had previously enjoyed, in the first year of his reign; therefore, when the precarious tenure on which he held the crown is considered, it is no wonder that he did not part with his personal estates till he saw which way the tide of affairs was likely to flow. Having cast the dye for the throne in murder and usurpation, he well knew, if he could not maintain it, he must pay the forfeiture of his crimes with his life; in the event of which taking place he would conceive a possibility of his family inheriting his estates, providing he had not disposed of them himself. The same policy would direct him to be bountiful to his friends when the sun of prosperity beamed upon his brow. And if we considered that the burgesses had already been *flattered* as a body, and *benefited* a little, as individuals, by John; that trading bodies were the most useful class in society in supporting the monarch against the barons; and that it is the general policy of kings to be the most bountiful to those who have the greatest influence among the people, particularly if their names stand high on the list of their friends, we shall see at once, the reason why John would prefer giving the lands to the merchants' guild.\* It now remains to be accounted for how the burgesses at large came by the estates.

The encouragement given by several subsequent monarchs to the incorporated merchants of this town, and their having officers of their own, and a hall (the time of that hall's being

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\* These lands, in great likelihood, were granted to the Guild by a separate deed, which may have been lost, or intentionally destroyed in some one of the political convulsions which have agitated this town.

erected corresponds with the institution of the guild) wherein to transact their business, would give them an importance in society superior to that possessed by their brother burgesses (there being no doubt of the members of the guild being themselves burgesses) which would naturally induce them to seek for, and obtain every post of honor and emolument in the borough; and their consequence would not be a little heightened by Henry the Fifth's forbidding the county magistrates to intermeddle with the government of the town. But when Henry the Sixth incorporated the town by a new and more honorable appellation; when he gave the burgesses the privilege of electing seven aldermen out of their own body; and authorized such aldermen to wear distinctive decorations, similar to those worn by the magistrates of London, the common burgesses would feel, and be proud of their own importance; and in proportion as the members of the guild exhibited a desire to fill these new offices, the body of burgesses would raise their own importance, with a view of making a profitable bargain for themselves—the one party having the power of conferring *substantial benefits*, and the other of conferring *trusts of honor*; and both being desirous of receiving !\*

Under these circumstances it is natural to conjecture that the wealthy tradesmen, who would also be the employers of the poor men, would address their fellow burgesses to the following effect:—  
 “ Brother burgesses, new honors have just been conferred upon us by our gracious monarch, which we wish to render of some essential benefit to those of our body on whom fortune has not shed her favors of wealth. Give, therefore, to our company the power of choosing the aldermen (a power, the exercise of which, if you retain in common with ourselves, it will not bring any real benefit to your families) and you shall become partakers with us in the enjoyment of the lands which belong to our company. We will allow you to turn a given number of cattle in, at proper times of the year; by which means, along with your industry, you will be enabled to live both comfortably and respectably. We will also allot certain portions of land to you and your widows after you, which shall be called *burgess parts*,† and for which you shall only pay a small acknowledgment; and you shall likewise have the privilege, not named in the charter, of choosing the members of our council from among those that have served the office of chamberlain to our company.”‡

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\* By referring to the article under the head “ Population ” it will be seen, that at this time the number of inhabitants in this town was very small, owing to the internal convulsions which had inundated the country with blood; and the cause which had reduced the number would not fail to make the greater part of those remaining very poor; consequently there need be no surprise excited at those so circumstanced commuting their newly acquired privilege of choosing the aldermen by popular election for more substantial benefits with the rich.

† ‡ The burgess parts upon the Bridge Estate, of course cannot be here alluded to; but it is very probable that the allotment of *parts* on this estate was in example of a previously adopted measure.

‡ Deering, after recapitulating various charters down to that of James the First, observes, “ In all these charters nothing is added or altered, (meaning the charter of Henry the Sixth) neither are the burgesses, by the charter of Henry the Sixth, nor any other before, confined to any number of counsellors to represent them; so that the council of a select number of men takes its original beginning from the consent and choice of all the burgesses, for the better management of the revenue of the corporation and dispatch of ordinary business.” Thus Deering's opinion is fixed as to the election of councilmen being a bye-law of the body, though he does not attempt to give an opinion as to the immediate occasion, or the time of its enactment, which fact, so clearly established, is a strong supporter of my hypothesis. The charter, however, of William and Mary, orders the choosing of eighteen councilmen, as an acknowledged custom previous to the surrender of the charter in the reign of Charles the Second.



The prospect of obtaining family comfort has such an effect on the human mind, that it is natural to suppose the poor burgesses would chime in with a measure which held out such flattering prospects; in particular when it is considered that most of them would be obliging their immediate employers; and when it is considered also that, though they gave up the direct election of the aldermen, they would have the choice of those men, though from a contracted list, from whom the aldermen would be finally chosen. And thus the two bodies would become consolidated into one; and as those businesses fell off which supported the members of the guild, the corporation of burgesses would enjoy what the corporation of merchants had enjoyed before; and the merchants' hall, became the hall of public justice and the depository of the burgesses' records, while it retained its name of *guild*.

Various other reasons tend to prove most clearly, that the burgesses obtained their land by a compact with the merchants' guild. First, their paying rent for their burgess parts, which, from its disproportion in point of value, may be considered more as an acknowledgment; but this they never would have agreed to had the land been a royal boon direct to themselves.\* Secondly, if the burgesses had at any time possessed the entire property of these lands, they would not have permitted private individuals to have obtained a legal inheritance therein, without displaying a strong opposition to such an infringement of their rights; a circumstance which we hear nothing of, either from record or tradition. And, as political bodies are generally pretty tenacious of their rights and privileges, if the burgesses of Nottingham had been so plundered of their land, as that nearly the whole of it had fallen into private hands, with the exception of its being open at certain times of the year, the circumstance would have been handed down from father to son, as a legend sacred to their sufferings, and as a badge of disgrace upon the memory of those that had thus plundered them of their rights. Thirdly, the plot of ground called Mansel Park, as noticed when speaking of Sir Thomas White's charity, no doubt was part of one of Peverel's forfeited estates, and obtained at the same time and in the same manner as the other land was obtained; yet over this, the burgesses at large never assumed any authority. But the most weighty reason may be found in the mode of the election of senior councilmen.—A political right or privilege, which has ever been exercised independently of prescription or charter, must have sprung from *boon* or *commutation*.† And the rich have ever been too fond of power to suffer the poor to participate with them in its exercise, as a matter of choice, except on condition of receiving some notable honor in return. And, as common councilmen are not named in the charter of Henry the Sixth,

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\* There goes an opinion that the corporation receive these rents as an understood compensation for draining the land, keeping footpaths &c. in repair. That they do these things is very true; but that they do them as a consideration for *value received* is one of those popular errors on which mistaken claims and false theories are often built.

As a proof that the corporation hold a dispensing power in the disposal of these *parts*, and that too independently of the almost irresistible influence of custom, it is only necessary to state, that from time immemorial it was the invariable practice for the widow of a burgess to succeed her husband in the possession of a *part*, if he held one at his death, and to claim it in his stead, did she live and continue in a widowed state till his name appeared at the head of the list of claimants. But, about two years ago, an order of hall annulled this custom with respect to those women who may happen to marry burgesses, after the latter have had their *parts* allotted to them.

† According to the statute of limitations, which was passed in 1541, undisturbed possession of property or privilege must have been enjoyed sixty years before the right by prescription can be pleaded with effect.

or any previous one, it is evident that no such officers existed at that time, except what might be, and most probably were chosen by the corporation of the merchants' guild for the general management of their business—as we know that these officers were elected by the burgesses long before such elections were guaranteed by charter in 1692, is it not fair and natural to conclude that the right of electing the common councilmen was first obtained by *commutation*? And what had the burgesses to give or surrender for this privilege, except the right of electing the aldermen, as granted by Henry the Sixth? Therefore, what can appear more reasonable than the burgesses (when pinched with poverty, and to oblige their employers) should give up the *immediate* right of choosing the aldermen, when the bait of gain was set in their way, accompanied with the privilege of electing the second class of officers in the corporate body? The rich would not fail too to represent to the poor the necessity of drawing some line of distinction in the choice of the aldermen, *with respect to station in life*; in order to secure justice from being overbalanced, in its administration between man and man, by ignorance and pecuniary rewards; and also to convince the king, that they were not disposed to make an ill use of their newly acquired privilege.

The man whose mind is overshadowed by prejudice, may carp at the custom which narrows down the internal elective franchise of a city or borough; but still, upon mature reflection, few, very few, I think, will be found, who will not allow that some criterion should be fixed whereby the election of magistrates should be regulated, lest the exercise of such right should become a burlesque upon the electors as well as upon the elected. If, in the event of an indiscriminate choice, a blustering shoe-black, an ostler, or a bill-sticker, in some capricious moment, should obtain the suffrage of his fellow burgesses, and thereby become chief magistrate; what a figure would he cut, adorned with the dignity of his high office, and clad in scarlet and ermine, by the side of the judge on the bench of justice! and not to mention the strong probability of his acting with a low minded partiality towards the faction that gave him power, the office itself would fall into disrepute, and the chartered rights into disgrace, which would be a just pretext for government to take them away.\*

This conclusion, respecting the election of aldermen, naturally brings under notice a very important trial on the same subject, which took place at Leicester, on the 28th of July, 1809, before Sir Simon le Blanc and a special jury. It was instituted by the king against John Ashwell, Esq. for exercising the functions of alderman of Nottingham, without his having been elected to that office *by the burgesses at large* according to the *letter* of the charter granted by Henry the Sixth, and on the issue of which public expectation was at a very high pitch.†

\* A few years ago, when the question of right of popular election was in dispute, the lowest character in the town was put in nomination to fill the office of mayor, by the next in *rank* with himself. This circumstance, without the parties intending it, had a very good effect. We may mention too as a historic fact, that some of the most dreadful convulsions which agitated the Roman Republic were occasioned for want of a system to regulate the public opinion in the election of the magistrates.

† According to an express law, all corporate trials must be held, either in the shire-hall of the appertaining county, in a contiguous county, or in the court of King's Bench, London, for the purpose of preventing all undue influence in packing the jury, or otherwise. And, because no burgess can be plaintiff in a suit against the corporate body of which, by virtue of his oath he is a member, the king is made nominal plaintiff; the complaining party having first given security for the payment of all expenses which may occur, in case of a loss of the suit, or otherwise. The latter law was passed to prevent a train of litigious actions by one party against another in corporate bodies; therefore the losing party pays the costs as in the court

The defence set up by Sir Thomas Plomer, the king's solicitor-general and leading counsel for the defendant, was, that the present manner of electing the aldermen from among the senior council, had been pursued from the year 1577, which was proved by a number of corporate records; which custom, he said, was founded upon a bye-law passed by the burgesses at large, or with their consent. "To state the true grounds on which the jury will have to decide the merits of the case," said Sir Thomas, "the charter of Henry the Sixth, gave to the burgesses at large the right of electing the aldermen—in *this body was the inherent right too of transferring the power, thus vested in them, to a select body, for the purpose of better obtaining the principal object of the body politic, which is the good government, the peace, and quiet of the town.*" Though this bye-law is not now in existence, nor any record to prove that it ever had a being, yet the *Lex non scripta*, or what is now called the common law of the land, maintains its existence, from the long usage which rests upon its supposed authority.\*

In the course of a most luminous and argumentative speech, Sir Thomas said, "The question stands decided by the highest tribunal in the country. In the reign of Elizabeth, attempts were made in various parts of the kingdom to overturn usages like the present. The question in itself important, was become more weighty from the disorders occasioned by those disputes.—The Lords of the Privy Council therefore referred the matter to the chief justice and chief baron (men of high authority in the law,) who called in the rest of the judges. The question underwent great deliberation, and the result distinctly and solemnly promulgated to regulate and determine the point in all future times. It has become the law of the land, and has never been controverted."—The case alluded to is to be found in Lord Coke's *Reports*, 4th vol. page 77, and is as follows :—

St. Michaelmas Term, In the 40th and 41st of Queen Elizabeth. The case of corporation.—In this term, at Serjeants' inn, in Fleet-street, it was demanded of the chief justices *Popham* and *Anderson*, *Periam*, chief baron, and the other justices, That where divers cities, boroughs, and towns, are incorporated by charters, some by the name of mayor and commonalty, or mayor, and burgesses, &c. or bailiffs and burgesses, &c. or aldermen and burgesses, &c. or Provost, or Reeve and burgesses, or the like; and in the said charters it is prescribed, That the mayors, aldermen, provosts, &c. shall be chosen by the commonalty, or burgesses, &c. If the ancient and usual elections of mayors, aldermen, bailiffs, provosts, &c. by certain selected numbers of the principal of the commonalty, or burgesses, commonly called the common council, or by such like name, and not in general by the whole community of burgesses, nor by so many of them as would come to the election, were good in law, for as much as by the words of charters the election should be indefinitely by the commonalty, or by the burgesses, which is as much as to say by all the commonalty, or by all the burgesses, &c. Which question, being of great importance and consequence, was referred by the Lords of the Council to the Justices to know the law in this case, because divers attempts were made of late in divers corporations contrary to the ancient usage to make popular elections :---And it was resolved by the justices, upon great deliberation and conference had among themselves, That such ancient and usual elections were good and

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of Common Pleas. The reason why this action was brought against Mr. Ashwell was, because he was the nearest of having served the office of alderman six years; as a gentleman having served that time can hold the office forwards, notwithstanding his election was illegal, except a legal process has been commenced against him previous to the expiration of the time. And if a verdict had been given against Mr. Ashwell, all the junior aldermen would have been liable to the loss of office by writs of ouster.

\* The law maintains the existence of such bye-laws upon the ground, that usages which have long existed independent of statute law or charter would not have otherwise obtained; and from a supposition that such bye-laws may have been purposely or accidentally destroyed.

well warranted by their charters, and by the law also ; for in every of their chart, they have power given them to make laws, ordinances, and constitutions for the better government and order of their cities or boroughs &c. by force of which, and for avoiding of popular confusion, they, by their common assent, constitute and ordain, That the mayor or bailiffs or other principal officers shall be elected by a selected number of the principal of the commonalty or of the burgesses as is aforesaid, and prescribe also how such selected number shall be chosen, and such ordinance and constitution was resolved to be good and allowable, and agreeable with the law and their charters for avoiding of popular disorder and confusion : And although now such constitution or ordinance cannot be shewed, yet it shall be presumed and intended in respect of such special manner of ancient and continual election (which special election could not begin without common consent) that at first such ordinance or constitution was made, such reverend respect the law attributes to ancient and continued allowance and usage, although it began within time of memory : *Mos retinendus est fidelissimæ vetustatis ; quæ præter consuetudinem & morem majorum fiunt, neque placent, neque rectavidentur ; & frequentia actus multum operatur.* And according to this resolution the ancient and continual usages have been in London, Norwich, and other ancient cities and corporations, and God forbid they should now be innovated or altered, for many and great inconveniencies will therefore arise, all which the law has well prevented, as appears by this resolution.

This article, the records produced, and the learned counsels' pleading were conclusive ; and the jury gave a verdict for the defendant. Thus we see a bye-law for which there is no foundation, except supposition, supported by the grave authority of a bench of judges, by the venerable opinion and the prayers of the learned Lord Coke, by the brilliant eloquence, the commanding diction, and convincing arguments of one of the first civilians of the present age, and, what is still more, by the unanimous and unbiased decision of a British jury.\*

The reader will have seen, that the hypothesis advanced respecting the manner by which the burgesses came by their right in their lands is entirely unconnected with the evidence produced at, and the result of this trial ; nay, if the presumed bye-law, with its supposed date, had been forthcoming, and it had confined itself to the mere point in dispute at this trial, it would have overturned my hypothesis altogether ; and we should have been left in the same labyrinth of uncertainties as when we started on the difficult investigation ; but, as that date and the assumed nature of the bye-law are only supported by record of a corresponding date, it does no such thing. For, if that record, on which alone the bare supposition of the bye-law rests, had been dated in 1500, instead of 1577, the bye-law would have had the same authority and have been supported by the same authority ; and so on to the year 1442, the date of Henry the Sixth's charter, and the time at which my hypothesis supposes a *real*, and far more important bye-law to have been made. Therefore the latter supposition is stronger, as a historic deduction, than that of the bye-law's having been passed in 1577, though not so in point of law ; because the proof of the practice founded upon it bears the latter date. Besides, by looking at the *parenthesis* in Lord Coke's Reports, we find that such *special election* (meaning the election of an alderman by the common council only) *could not begin without common consent.* And, as the record of 1577, says nothing about common consent, but merely confines itself to the fact of the election of an alderman having taken place at that time contrary to the *letter* of the charter, this circumstance is of itself a signal, and, we may fairly

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\* At the Michaelmas Term after the trial, the Attorney-General obtained a rule to shew the unreasonableness of the supposed bye-law ; but when the case came to be argued, on the 25th of January, 1810, Lord Ellenborough, Mr. Justice Grose, and Mr. Justice Bailey, gave their opinion that the bye-law was *reasonable and just* ; consequently the rule was discharged, and the question for ever laid at rest.

say, a *legal* proof, that the *bye-law* which recorded the *common consent* of the burgesses was of an anterior date; the mode of electing the aldermen at the date of the confirmatory record (for it is nothing else) being then the *customary mode*; or the record would not have barely confined itself to the fact of an election being thus made. And is it likely, that the *common consent* of a body of needy men could be obtained for the giving up a signal control and authority, which at least would flatter their vanity, without a compensation? Those who think so, can know little of the passions which govern the great mass of mankind! Another very striking proof is, that there is no record in existence, or even *traditionary report*, of an alderman ever having been elected by the burgesses at large; nor is there any authority to prove how the burgesses obtained the privilege of electing the senior councilmen. *Therefore the very circumstances disclosed at this trial, tend most materially to support the hypothesis of the burgesses having obtained the right of possession in the lands, and the privilege of electing the senior councilmen, in consideration of giving up the right of electing the aldermen; and that too immediately after the charter of Henry the Sixth, was obtained.*

I have thus given my opinion freely, as to the way by which the burgesses obtained their lands; and, though some may differ from me on the subject, I think none will accuse me of partiality—the question merited investigation, and as such I have done my duty.

### COMMON COUNCIL.

This body, as has already been observed, consists of eighteen *senior* and six *junior* counsellors; to whom are annexed, in their deliberative capacity, six aldermen and the mayor. To constitute a *hall* for the transacting of business, the mayor, three aldermen, and nine senior counsellors must be present. The junior counsellors are summoned the same as the other members of the hall, and they have *now* the privilege of voting in all questions; but still their presence is not necessary to authorize the body to transact corporate business.\* Upon questions relating to the chamber estates, the chamberlains have a right to vote: on other occasions they act as officers in waiting to the corporate body. The aldermen are chosen by the common hall out of the senior counsellors;† and the last elected alderman generally serves the office of mayor the ensuing year; otherwise this office goes by rotation, except some particular cause, connected with the alderman the next in succession, be assigned for deviating from the practice. The senior counsellors are elected by the burgesses at large out of those that have served the offices of chamberlain and sheriff, though they having served the office of chamberlain alone constitutes the necessary qualification; while the junior counsellors are elected in the same popular way, without any other qualification than that of being a resident burgess.

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\* Till 1722, at which time the junior counsellors ceased to be elected, they were neither suffered to vote in the hall, or sit at the table; there being a bench set apart for them to sit upon at a distance from the rest.

† We must observe, however, that this custom has been twice dispensed with, once in 1733, at the election of Thomas Langford, who went in to the church *sheriff*, and came out *mayor*. In this mayoralty a person of the name of Ward was made burgess at the age of 106. In Mr. Langford's second mayoralty, 1740, he served the office of high sheriff for the county. The second time the custom was dispensed with was in 1810, Mr. John Bates being then elected to the office of alderman without having been a member of the council.

On the subject of the corporate council, Deering speaks as follows :—" From the time of Henry the Sixth, the burgesses enjoyed in peace all the advantages which they had bestowed upon them by the crown, till the reign of king James the First, when a dispute arose between the aldermen and the council, because the former had lately taken upon them, without the consent of the burgesses, to sit in the hall as members of the council, and to give their vote in settling and disposing of the corporation, bridge, and school lands; which encroachment caused the burgesses to apply to the Lords of the King's Privy Council, who referred the affair to the judges' examination: these, after mature consideration of the charter and other matters in dispute, gave in certificates of their opinion, which produced an order of the Privy Council, whereby the aldermen were excluded voting as counsellors, and the number of these last was limited to twenty-four, of which six were chosen by the burgesses at large out of themselves, who had not served the office of chamberlain and sheriff." "And this, he observes in a note," "*was their first sanction for chusing six junior counsellors.*"

For this rare piece of information, Deering was beholden to Mr. Sacheverell's "case of the corporation of Nottingham," to which our author refers us for clear and satisfactory information on the subject, and which was written while the person whose name it bears was writhing under the pressure of a fine of 500 marks for having been deeply involved in a riot in guildhall; and while under a bond for his good behaviour. A little investigation into this matter will prove how dangerous it is for a historian to commit his credit on board so crazy a bark.\*

Now Deering well knew, *that the aldermen did sit in the hall, and vote on all occasions*, at the time he was writing his work; therefore, if at so recent a period as the reign of James the First, they had been expelled the hall, he ought to have informed us at what time, and on what authority they resumed their seats; but this he has not attempted to do. Were this the only reason for rejecting the account of the aldermen's expulsion from the council, we should be justified in so doing; but the source whence Deering drew his information, will furnish others still more conclusive.† It is true this "case of the corporation" informs us, that some objections were made to the aldermen's sitting in the council, and one reason assigned by the writer is, "because there were no aldermen in the town before Henry the Sixth's days." Now did not Mr. Sacheverell know, that the burgesses were first authorized to elect aldermen by the charter of this very monarch? which charter says not a word about the adoption of a corporate council! This council could only originate from necessity and a combination of interests; and is, as has already been proved, the offspring of the merchants' guild and the corporation of burgesses united. And is it not reasonable to suppose, as soon as the guild had compromised with the burgesses for the election of the aldermen, that the latter would have the privilege of sitting in the council of the

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\* The only palliative which justice can point out for the erroneous statement given by Mr. Sacheverell is, the necessity he felt of justifying himself and friends, in making one of the boldest struggles which ever was made by a handful of men in a local capacity, to prevent tyranny from rearing its hideous power upon the ruins of prescriptive and chartered rights.

† The Privy Council of the king has no such power as is attributed to it by Deering and Sacheverell, if we are to credit the first law authorities; the Lords of the Council having no judicial authority, except in cases where the king is admitted the *feudal lord*; therefore the tale of expulsion is founded on ignorance and falsehood.

guild, of which body they would be conspicuous members? and thus, by consolidating the two bodies into one, they would act another very dignified part in the political compact—they would become the guardians for the due performance of the contract between the two parties.

In support of the opinion that the aldermen have sat in the common council from their first election, we have only to refer to the trial which took place in 1775, respecting the right of the burgesses to choose six junior counsellors; and to the surrender of the charters in 1681.

From some old deeds produced in evidence at the trial, there can be no doubt of the aldermen having sat in the council chamber from the time of their first election, since those deeds were signed by the mayor, three or four aldermen, and six common counsellors; and were the regular transactions of the corporate body as far back as the reigns of Henry the Sixth, Henry the Eighth, and Elizabeth. And when the charters were attempted to be surrendered (the account of which is given us by this very Sacheverell) Gervas Wyld, mayor, Christopher Hall, John Parker, Gervas Rippon, William Toplady, and William Greaves, aldermen, voted on the occasion. And although a petition, signed by nearly four hundred burgesses, was presented to the Lord Chancellor against the surrender, not a word is found therein against the right of the aldermen to vote in the council, which certainly would have been the case had they been so recently forbidden to exercise the right of voting on corporate business, particularly as all those named above, except Greaves, voted for the surrender; and, more particularly still, as without the mayor and aldermen, there would have been a majority of three against the surrender, which would either have prevented the transaction from having taken place, or have rendered it illegal in itself, and therefore would have been a proper subject of complaint.\*

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\* Though this petition does not call in question the right of the aldermen to vote in the hall, yet it contains other matter of considerable interest.—The petitioners distinctly assert, that the lands which the burgesses enjoyed were not obtained by royal bounty; and the argument which they dwell mainly upon against a surrender of the charters is, that as these lands were given by "*divers persons to the corporation*," the surrender of the charters would cause such lands to be lost to the burgesses, if heirs to the original donors could be traced. It may be proper to observe here, as the distinction is not made under the last head, that the Coppices, which contain 190 acres and a few roods, are to be considered as an exception to the other lands, with respect to the manner of obtainment; as it was the opinion of the late Mr. Coldham, town clerk, to whose memory I here pay a grateful tribute of respect for the satisfactory and gentlemanly manner in which he always treated me when I applied to him for information for this history, and whose name is mentioned in the preface, that the Coppices were given to the corporation of burgesses by James the First, as a mark of respect for the handsome manner in which he was treated, when enjoying his carousal at St. Ann's, as noticed in a foregoing chapter; these Coppices, which are now converted into excellent arable and pasture lands, being then overspread with timber and underwood, and forming that portion of the Royal Chase which lay within the liberties of the town. In 1809, the corporation advertised a part of the Coppices for sale, towards discharging a debt of upwards of five thousand pounds, which had been contracted, partly for repairing the town prisons previously to the collecting of the "town rate," and partly in defending themselves in certain law suits, which were stated to have been commenced against them by individual burgesses from capitions and political motives. Before the day of sale arrived, a meeting of a number of burgesses was held in guildhall to oppose the sale of the land, on the ground of its consisting of burgess-parts; and that the corporation had wantonly and unnecessarily squandered away the funds of the body. The town clerk rebutted these accusations by asserting, that there were no burgess-parts upon the Coppice lands, but that the corporation paid to thirty burgesses thirty shillings a year each, out of the rental thereof; which custom, he said, might be supposed to have originated from this money being paid as a compensation in lieu of converting that land into burgess-parts when it lay in an uncultivated state, as when it lay in that state, if it had been divided, it would not have answered any good purpose to the burgesses individually, the corporate body thereby becoming the legal disposers of the land in question, as the compact of *paying and receiving* inferred the general consent of the burgesses at large to a bye-law to that effect [It appears however that the payment to the burgesses has been increased within the last century, as a small record which I possess, written in 1713, states the payments then to be *twenty* shillings a year to *twenty* burgesses each.] The town clerk also stated, that the corporation had not wantonly expended a shilling of the mooney resulting from their estates during the last twenty years. To prove the truth of this assertion, Mr. Alderman Ashwell proposed, that a committee of six should be immediately chosen, three to be elected by the burgesses then present, and three by the corporate body, to examine the chamberlains' accounts; and the result of such investigation to be afterwards published in any way the burgesses in full meeting should determine; which proposition was

Let us now try Deering's account of the origin of the junior counsellors, which he founded upon the authority of Mr. Sacheverell's testimony, by the test of serjeant Hill's declaration, who was leading counsel *against* the corporation at the trial in 1775. This gentleman stated, "that it had been the ancient constitution of the town of Nottingham, to elect eighteen senior and six junior counsellors, so far back as the year 1662, when the corporation was regulated by the act of parliament of the 13th of Charles the Second, and from thence to the year 1681, at which time the charters of the town were surrendered to king Charles the Second. That king William and queen Mary, by their charter, granted to the mayor and burgesses of this town in the year 1692, had restored to them the ancient constitution they enjoyed before the surrender of their charters, which consisted of eighteen senior and six junior counsellors; and that the corporation understood such charter to be so, because, immediately after the granting thereof, they elected eighteen senior and six junior counsellors, and continued such custom to the year 1722, (being thirty years after the charter), when the corporation, for reasons best known to themselves, refused to elect any more junior counsellors." In support of this declaration, several entries (says my account) in the years 1662, 1692, and 1693, were read from the corporation books, when it was admitted to have been the invariable custom of the town to have eighteen senior and six junior counsellors, the latter alone being chosen from among those burgesses that had not served any office in the corporate body, from 1662 to 1722, with the exception of about ten years, when the corporation subsisted under the charter of Charles the Second.

Sacheverell and Deering inform us, that the circumstance which gave occasion to the chusing of a junior council took place in 1605, while serjeant Hill, upon this important point never refers to their authority, but, on the contrary, asserts (and supports his assertion by legal records) that this branch of the corporate constitution was instituted in 1662, making a difference of 57 years.—The reader, I presume, will not hesitate to decide between the two authorities; for, though they were alike produced in opposition to the corporation, the one was the effect of spleen, disappointment, and chagrin, while the other is founded upon argument and record, and adduced to support an important point of law, a point of law on which rested that branch of the corporate constitution which forms the subject of the opposing testimonies. And, as we are justified in rejecting the date given us by these writers of the original election of the junior council, so we are justified (if no other reason had been adduced for so doing) in rejecting the ground-work of the date also; namely, the expulsion of the aldermen from the common hall.

On the 12th of April, 1776, the six following gentlemen were elected members of the junior council, after a trifling opposition of one day by a Mr. Statham, who polled about 70 votes, while the others polled upwards of 300 each; viz. Cornelius Launder, Esq. Mr. Thomas Frost, Mr. John

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supported by the mayor and Mr. Alderman Allen. This honorable proposal was neglected to be embraced, through the folly of a few individuals, who seemed to sink under the weight of their own daring, and whose object appeared more to excite clamour, than to obtain justice and information; the truth of which may be inferred from the leading man in the business being, at the very time, subject to a prosecution for infringing upon the burgesses land.

In consequence of a want of due decorum in some persons present, the mayor, aldermen, and their friends retired, as also did other respectable persons that came to the meeting with a view of opposing them, when the few that remained passed a resolution to petition the Lord Chancellor against the sale of the land; but the corporation proceeded no further in the business.



Morris, Mr. Thomas Rawson, Mr. Charles Brown, and Mr. John Sterland—Mr. Brown dying in 1781, was succeeded by Mr. John Aleyné, who dying in 1792, was succeeded by Mr. John James, Mr. Frost dying in 1798, was succeeded by Mr. Richard Hooton, Mr. Morris dying in 1799, was succeeded by Mr. James Lee, Mr. Rawson dying in 1801, was succeeded by Mr. Charles Twells, Cornelius Launder, Esq. dying in 1807, was succeeded by Mr. Lewis Allsopp,\* Mr. Twells dying in 1809, was succeeded by Mr. Martin Roe, Mr. Sterland dying in 1815, was succeeded by Mr. James Dale.

The principal object which induced the suing parties to seek for the re-election of junior counsellors was grounded on an opinion, that the corporation would be compelled to elect their chamberlains out of that body, which would have given them the exclusive privilege of rising to the highest offices of the corporate body, and would have caused an election of two junior counsellors annually, independently of what might have been occasioned by death. Nor was it long before this question was brought before Lord Mansfield, who had presided at the previous trial; but his lordship informed the junior counsellors that they must be contented in their present stations, as the mayor, like every other independent gentleman, had a right to choose his own chamberlains or stewards

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\* After Mr. Allsopp was declared duly elected, and it was expected that he was going to be sworn, in the manner as all the members of the common council are, he refused to take that oath or part of an oath which forbids the members of the council to divulge the secrets thereof; he was therefore refused permission to enter the council chamber, and he declared his intention to seek his remedy at law. In this he was partially supported by popular opinion, under an impression that all oaths of secrecy in corporate bodies were so many guarantees for making an improper use of the property entrusted by charter or common law to their care; and, as Mr. Allsopp was an attorney-at-law himself, great expectations were entertained from his resistance to the usual custom; but, among the more reflecting part of the community, *his being an attorney, and making the attempt*, excited all the astonishment, as it was thought that the knowledge which he was *supposed* to possess of the common law of the land, would have prevented him from thus committing himself, as a few observations will make plainly appear. And it will also plainly appear, that the burgesses have no more cause to dread the oath of secrecy, as taken by the members of the common council, than they have to dread the decrees of the Turkish divan; nay, I have no doubt that this oath will appear to the unprejudiced rather as a benefit than an evil.

It is known that parliament, immediately on its re-election, among other things, demands of the king the privilege of speech, that its members, in their parliamentary capacity, may be protected against prosecution for their declarations and animadversions upon persons and things, except as they are amenable to the bye-laws of the house. And does not every man of common sense say that this is a good custom—a proper protection? certainly he does! And ought not the members of a political body corporate to have the same privilege of speech, in their corporate capacity—ought not they to have the same protection? And, as this privilege cannot be obtained in the way it is obtained for members of parliament, it is sought for and procured under the sacred guarantee of an oath. For the oath of secrecy has no other meaning, nor affords no other protection, as is manifest, from any authoritative act of the corporate body being subject to legal investigation, by the king's becoming prosecutor, if properly applied to for that purpose; and from the congregated members of the corporate body being amenable to offended justice, if they have been found to adopt proceedings contrary to the rule of right. The oath in question has no other effect, nor is any other intention coupled with it, than that of emboldening every member of the council to canvass freely and without exposure the characters of persons put in nomination for certain offices, and to give their opinions frankly and honestly upon any subject brought under their consideration. For, were it not for this protecting oath—was every observation, *made in the hall*, liable to exposure, animadversion, and common tale-bearing distortion *out of the hall*, where is the gentleman that would chuse to give his sentiments freely upon, and state his private objections to another's becoming an ostensible officer to the body, who, in point of property and influence, might be far his superior; and perhaps have the power of doing him very great injury? For instance, suppose an alderman is wanted, and some purse-proud ruffian who has not served the office of chamberlain, is put in nomination—and such men frequently have their friends in public bodies—is it right that he should be opposed on the ground of public character and decorum, and, indeed, on the ground of public justice, or is it not? And few gentlemen, it must be allowed, would chuse to run the risk, if they were not protected against exposure, and, consequently, against private and combined vengeance. The oath in question has this effect; and it is therefore held good in point of justice and equity, as well as in law; and such Mr. Allsopp found, for, when the question was brought before Lord Ellenborough, his lordship informed him that the oath was a very proper one; and therefore if he chose not to take it he was at liberty so to do, and some other burgess might be elected in his stead. But Mr. Allsopp chose rather to take the oath and his seat in the council.

*LIST OF THE SENIOR COUNCIL.*

Mr. John Collishaw  
 Mr. Robert Summers  
 Mr. William Huthwaite  
 John Fellows, Esq.  
 Mr. Edward Chatteris  
 Mr. Thomas Pepper  
 Mr. Joseph Heath  
 Mr. Thomas Wyld  
 Mr. Nathaniel Need, jun.

Mr. Thomas Carpenter Smith  
 Joseph Hurst Lowe, Esq.  
 Mr. Cornelius Huthwaite  
 Mr. John Houseman Barber  
 Mr. Henry Esfield  
 Mr. Jonathan Dunn  
 Mr. John Stone  
 Mr. William Hickling  
 Mr. William Morley

## *THE ALDERMEN AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WARDS.*

### CHAPEL WARD.

This ward, to which Alderman Allen succeeded in 1804, begins at the north-east corner of Friar-lane ; thence passing across the Market-place and up Sheep-lane, the west side of which it embraces ; then crossing Parliament-street and going along Shaw's-lane till it reaches the Mansfield-road, which it follows to the extremities of the town's liberties in that direction ; then it skirts those liberties till it arrives at Radford ; thence it passes on to the Park, and skirts the fields till it reaches the Infirmary gardens ; then leaving Standard-hill to the right, and passing down Park-street and Friar-lane, taking in all the intermediate building to the place where it begins.

### CASTLE WARD.

Alderman Swann succeeded to this ward in 1804. It begins at the top of Wheeler-gate, and runs up the south side of Friar-lane and Park-street ; then turning obliquely from the Castle-lodge, it passes down by Brewhouse-yard and over the Leen opposite the Castle-wharf, the latter of which it leaves to the right ; it then goes by the engine-house and passes over the newly erected bridge at the bottom of Greyfriars-gate, taking in the west side of that street and of Lister-gate. It then proceeds across the Low-pavement, through Church-lane, up the south, and down the north side of Pepper-street ; then taking in the building in St. Peter's-church-yard, and embracing the porched house opposite the outlet from the latter place, it proceeds down St. Peter's-gate to Peck-lane, comprehending both sides of the latter street as far as the Punchbowl coffee-house ; then proceeding down St. Peter's-square, and up the east side of Wheeler-gate, and ending at the corner of Timber-hill,

### MARKET WARD.

Alderman Coldham succeeded to this ward in 1808. It proceeds from the west to the east end of Timber-hill ; then passing over to Middle-row, and proceeding up Cheapside, it passes through and takes in both sides of High-street. It then courses up the west side of Clumber-street and Milton-street ; then proceeds up the same side of Mansfield-road, and turns on Shaw's-lane to Parliament-street, which it crosses, and goes down the east side of Sheep-lane, and then over the Market-place to the point where it begins, and comprehending all the building within its circuit.

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**NORTH WARD.**

To this ward Alderman Wilson succeeded in 1810. It takes its course from the west end of Pelham-street; then passing up the east side of Clumber-street and Milton-street, it proceeds up the same side of the Mansfield-road, and skirts the town's liberties in a direction which comprehends the Clay-fields, the Coppices, St. Ann's-well, &c. as far as the Carlton-road and Snenton, still skirting the town till it arrives at the end of Barker-gate, up the north side of which it passes into Stoney-street, the whole of which it comprehends. It then takes in Short-hill, and St. Mary's-church-side as far as the Long-stairs; it then embraces the whole of St. Mary's-gate, from the north end of which street it proceeds down Warser-gate, and passing up the north side of Carlton-street and down Pelham-street to where it commences; consequently it comprehends Hockley, Coalpit-lane, and all the masses of new buildings in that direction.

**BRIDGE WARD.**

Alderman Ashwell succeeded to this ward in 1802. It begins at the top of Garner's-hill, whence it passes down the east side of it and through Middle-marsh. It then takes in the whole of Broad-marsh, and passes down the east side of Greyfriars-gate, at the bottom of which it crosses the Leen, and, after having compassed the town's liberties in the direction of Lenton, Wilford, Colwick, and Snenton, it enters Barker-gate in the same direction as the north ward does, taking in the south side of that street. It passes through and embraces the whole of Bellar-gate and the Hollow-stone; then turns up Malin-hill, and out at the top of the Long-stairs; then comprehending the whole of the High-pavement, it ends at the Blue-coat school.

**MIDDLE WARD.**

To this ward Alderman Morley succeeded in 1814. It proceeds from the Black Moor's-head in High-street, taking in the building to the end of Bridlesmith-gate, then up Chandler's-lane, down the south side of Carlton-street, and round by the Stoney-street end thereof, it passes up the north side of Warser-gate till it arrives opposite the end of St. Mary's-gate, when it embraces both sides of Warser-gate and Bottle-lane. It then passes along the east side of Bridlesmith-gate, turns back on the west side, and, after directing its course down the Poultry, it ends at the Punch-bowl, in Peck-lane.

**MONT-HALL WARD.**

This ward proceeds down the west side of Garner's-hill, and up Drury-hill. It takes the whole of the Middle and Low-pavements, as also Halifax-lane, Pilcher-gate, Fletcher-gate, Market-street, and Byard-lane; and, when at the bottom of the Low-pavement, it proceeds down the east side of Lister-gate, and ends near the bottom of that street, where it meets the castle ward. The late Alderman Bates was elected to this ward in 1810; nor has a successor to him yet been elected.\*

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\* We must here observe, that the jurisdiction of the aldermen is not confined to their respective wards, as each holds jurisdiction over the town, which was divided into wards for the convenience of the constables in the performance of some part of their duty.

### *CORPORATE SERVANTS.*

These officers consist of two bridge-masters, two school-wardens, two coroners,\* two chamberlains, two sheriffs, a town clerk, who is also *clerk of the peace*, a sheriffs' clerk, who is steward of the mayor's and sheriffs' court, and clerk of the sheriffs' county court, a surveyor or town's husband, two bailiffs, who are serjeants at mace, the mayor's serjeant, the common serjeant, who is also called the mayoress's serjeant, the keeper of the gaol, the keeper of the house of correction, a town cryer, a field pounder; a meadow pounder, and the keeper of the fields and woods.

The bridge-masters and school-wardens are chosen annually, though it is customary, and, I believe, conformable to an order of hall, for the same gentlemen to be twice or three times successively re-chosen, that they may advantage the trusts committed to their care in the subsequent years by the experience obtained in the first year; and, in consideration of the high importance attached to these trusts, these officers generally are aldermen. The chamberlains and sheriffs are also chosen annually; and the chamberlains for one year are generally chosen sheriffs for the next. These two latter officers wear black silk gowns, as do the bailiffs, who are their serjeants at mace. The town clerk likewise wears a black silk gown. The mayor's serjeant is also a serjeant at mace, he carrying the mayor's massive and distinguishable gold and silver mace at all public processions; the present serjeant and one of his predecessors in office also holding the situation of high constable. And the common serjeant is keeper of the fields and woods. These two officers have one and the same livery, which consists of a dark blue cloak trimmed with gold lace, and hats trimmed with the same material, and encircled with a gold band.† The town cryer and the keeper of the house of correction wear a red livery with blue cuffs and trimmed with silver lace, and hats trimmed and banded with the same material; and the two pounders wear a green livery, with similar trimmings to the two officers just named.—Formerly there was a scavenger and a purveyor; but the duty of the former is performed by the chamberlains, and the latter has ceased to be necessary, since hot entertainments went out of fashion.

Deering, when speaking of the corporate servants, observes, "The mayor and sheriffs had "formerly an officer called a *bill-bearer*, at present that office is unknown." As neither our author nor tradition have furnished a hint, as to the nature of this office, we are left entirely to conjecture. The only duty performed by any of the servants at this time, which can bear any affinity to the appellation of *bill-bearer*, is that of carrying out summonses from the mayor to the common council, &c. on corporate business, which is performed, as seems very natural, by the mayor's serjeant. Is it not reasonable to suppose, that the corporation, shortly after their judicial inauguration, would employ an officer to carry the *securis* or axe, and the *fascēs* before them at

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\* The coroners are elected by what are called the *livery or clothing*, i. e. all those who have served the office of chamberlain; the distinctiveness of which name or names clearly imports, as indeed is the fact, that the gentlemen serving the latter office wore the livery or clothing of the corporation, which consists of a black silk gown, except the under servants, whose dresses will be described presently. Neither the chamberlains nor the coroners have worn the gown of some time.

† The duty of the keeper of the fields and woods has ceased; and so have his perquisites, except a tree be blown down within the liberties of the town, which, according to custom, becomes his property.

their public processions, in order to impress their authority with additional awe upon the multitude, in the same manner as the Roman magistrates were preceded by their *lictors* ; these instruments being the natural appendages of justice? And supposing this practice to have been pursued (and there would be great propriety in it now) the name of the *axe* or halberd might provincially be converted into *bill*, a circumstance nowise uncommon ; and hence the bearer thereof would obtain the name of *bill-bearer*.

### ANCIENT CUSTOMS OF THE CORPORATION.

Deering in page 124 has preserved an account of an ancient annual procession of the corporate body to Southwell, which he says was copied by the Rev. Samuel Berdmore from the register of that town. “ It runs thus :—“ The maiore of Nottingh. and his brethren and all the clothing in “ likewise to ride in their best livery at their entry into *Southvill*, on Wytson Monday, and so to “ procession *Te Deum*, without the maior and oder thick the contrary because of foulness of way, “ or distemperance of the weder. Also the said maiore and his brethren and all the clothing in “ likewise to ride in their livery when they be comyn home from *Southvill* on the said Wytson “ Monday through the town of Nottingh. and the said justices of peace to have their clokes born “ after them on horse-back at the same time through the town.

“ This is copyed out of the leiger of

“ Nott. town by me Fran. Leek,

“ Preb. de Woodborough.”

From the observance of this custom in times gone by, Deering conjectured that the church of Southwell (Southvill, i. e. the *vill* or *town to the south*) was acknowledged by Nottingham as the *mother church*. Without entering into controversy with our author on the subject of this notion of his, which appears so absurd, when we consider the relative connections and importance of the two towns, particularly since Nottingham has been honored with a mayor, I will just observe, that the custom we are speaking of seems to have savoured more of *ostentation* than of *submission* ; and which might be practised for the purpose of impressing the country people with awe and admiration by a display of grandeur and formality ; the rustic simplicity of those times giving full scope to such notions of parade ; but which the intercourse of trade, that naturally affiliates the different orders in society, has long since rendered ineffectual.

Deering, from his anonymous author, has also given us the following ancient custom :—“ By a “ custom,” says he, “ time beyond memory, the mayor and aldermen of the town and their wives “ have been used on Monday in Easter week, morning prayers ended, to march to St. Ann’s-well, “ having the town waits to play before them, and attended by all the clothing and their wives, i. e. “ such as have been sheriffs, and ever after wear scarlet gowns, together with the officers of the “ town, and many other burgesses and gentlemen, such as wish well to the *woodward*, this meeting “ being at first instituted, and since continued for his benefit.”

That it is not necessary for a gentleman to have served the office of *sheriff*, in order to his being a member of the *clothing*, and consequently to qualify him for the situation of senior counsellor, I have before stated ; the office of chamberlain qualifying for both ; while on the subject of the

clothing's scarlet gowns, Deering has the following remarks:—"By this it seems the sheriffs (by which, taking the text of his author, he means the whole clothing) used to wear scarlet as well as the aldermen; and an old person informs me, that Mr. John Sherwin, in king Charles the Second's reign, claimed, when sheriff, the wearing of a scarlet gown, but gave offence in having it made, not like the sheriffs; but in the fashion of an alderman's gown."

That the mayor, aldermen, and common counsellors have a right to change the livery of their officers, must be readily granted; but, if their officers ever did wear scarlet gowns, my opinion is, that it was a custom handed down from the merchants' guild, and practised by the members of their council before they became connected with the political body corporate; and that the latter, when they had completely enveloped the former, changed the livery of their superior servants to a more humble colour, for the purpose of greater distinguishment between them and the mayor and aldermen.

### ***ELECTION OF THE MAYOR, &c.***

Deering has given us a detailed account of this ceremony; and, as it corresponds with the practice of the present day, except in a few particulars which will be noticed, we will give it in our author's own words.—"On the 29th of September in the morning, the aldermen and all those who are upon the clothing assemble at the old mayor's house, who entertains them, besides tea and coffee, with a cold collation, (formerly with hot roasted geese) about ten of the clock they go in their formalities to the church of St. Mary, the waits with scarlet cloaks laced with silver, marching and playing before them, where they attend divine service, and hear a sermon preached upon that occasion by one of the ministers of the three parishes, who take their turn as chaplains of the corporation, each of them receiving annually, a free gift of £20, by the hands of the chamberlains.\* Divine service ended, the whole body goes into the vestry, where the old mayor seats himself in an elbow-chair, at a table covered with black cloth, the mace being laid in the middle of it, covered with rosemary and sprigs of bay, (which they term burying the mace,) then the mayor presents the person before nominated to the body, and after it has gone through the votes of all the clothing, the late mayor takes up the mace, kisses it, and delivers it into the hands of the new mayor, with a suitable compliment, who proposes two persons for sheriffs, and two for the office of chamberlains, these having also gone through the votes, the mayor and the rest go into the chancel, where the senior coroner administers the oath to the new mayor, in the presence of the old one; next the town clerk gives to the sheriffs and chamberlains the oath of their office.—The ceremony being thus ended, they march in order as before, to the new hall, [the Exchange-hall] attended by such gentlemen and tradesmen as have been invited by the new mayor, &c. In their way at the Week-day-cross, over against the ancient guild-hall, the town clerk proclaims the mayor and the sheriffs, and the next ensuing market-day, they are again proclaimed, in the face of the whole market at the Malt-cross."†

\* This donation, as has already been noticed, has been discontinued.

† This, and every other proclamation promulgated in this town, are now made by the town cryer from a window in the front of the Exchange, the town clerk standing near him to direct him what he is to say.

“ In former times, as I am credibly informed,” continues our author, “ hot entertainments, very expensive to the mayor and sheriffs, used to be made, and each at his respective house, used to feast his friends, the one striving to out do the other in splendour; but of late years those extravagancies are laid aside, and the guests, at the joint expense of the mayor and sheriffs, are welcomed in the long room over the shambles, with bread and cheese and fruit in season, pipes and tobacco, with plenty of wine, punch, and ale if called for. At last the sheriffs present every guest with a large piece of rich cake, made for that purpose.”

*The mayor's feast*, as this entertainment was called, on the 29th of September, is now laid aside, with the exception of his friends being invited to breakfast with him before he goes to church for inauguration. It is customary, however, for the mayor to give four sessions dinners, to two of which it would be considered ungentlemanly on his part, if he did not invite all the resident clothing of the body corporate. To enable him to meet the expenses of these dinners, and otherwise to support the dignity of his office, it was usual for him to receive from the hands of the chamberlains one hundred pounds, and likewise the fines levied by the Middleton jury, &c. which generally amounted to fifty pounds more; but, in 1804, these fines were either abrogated, or applied to other purposes, and the mayor's salary was advanced to two hundred pounds. There is likewise an annual meeting in the exchange-hall on the king's birth-day, to drink his majesty's health, the expenses of which are defrayed out of the chamber purse. To this meeting the mayor, who presides, with the livery servants in waiting, has the exclusive privilege of issuing invitations, which generally extend to all the gentlemen and respectable tradesmen in the town.\*

### ***SHERIFFS' COUNTY COURT OF THE TOWN.***

The words in the charter of Henry the Sixth, which appertain to this court are the following :—  
 “ And that the sheriffs of the said town, and the precincts thereof, and the other sheriffs for time to come, shall, in future; hold their county court on Monday in every month within the said town, for the said town, and the precincts of the same, in such manner as other sheriffs, at other places within our kingdom, or as other sheriffs of us, our heirs and successors hold, or ought to hold their county courts in other parts of our kingdom.” And, as this subject has an influence upon the interest of many who may read this history, we will give Blackstone's statement of county courts, which embraces this among the rest.

“ The county court,” says our civilian, “ is a court incident to the jurisdiction of the sheriff †  
 “ It is not a court of record, but may hold pleas of debt or damages *under the value of forty*

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\* A salary of £200, for the chief magistrate of a town, which is generally so profuse in its other departments of public expenditure, and which is so populous and important, is insignificant and paltry in the extreme; particularly when it is considered that that money is barely sufficient to defray the expenses of the sessions dinners. Even Doncaster has a mansion-house, with banquet-room, &c. to give dignity to the office of its chief magistrate.— It is true, that the new room fitting up at the Exchange will make one of the first banqueting-rooms in the kingdom; but where are the necessarily appended cellars, &c. and the means of supplying them with requisites? It is therefore seriously to be wished, that the dignity of the mayor was properly supported; for, the cost attending a judicious display of the first magisterial dignity would be more than compensated by the awe and admiration which official power would inspire in the prevention of youthful depravity.

† Two sheriffs and two coroners were originally elected in Nottingham, to officiate respectively in the English and French boroughs; and though the latter distinction has ceased, the officers are still elected.

“ *shillings*. Over some of which causes these inferior courts have, by the express words of the statute of Gloucester, a jurisdiction totally exclusive of the king’s superior courts. For in order to be entitled to sue an action of trespass for goods before the king’s justiciars, the plaintiff is directed to make affidavit that the cause of action does really and *bona fide* amount to 40s. which affidavit is now unaccountably disused, except in the Court of Exchequer. The statute also 43. Elizabeth, c. 6. which gives the judges in all personal actions, where the jury assess less damages than 40s. a power to certify the same and abridge the plaintiff of his full costs, was also meant to prevent vexation by litigious plaintiffs; who, for purposes of mere oppression, might be inclinable to institute suits in the superior courts for injuries of a trifling value. The county court may also hold plea of many real actions, and of all personal actions to any amount, by virtue of a special writ called a *justicies*; which is a writ empowering the sheriff, for the sake of dispatch, to do the same justice in his county court, as might otherwise be had at Westminster. The freeholders of the county are the real judges in this court, and the sheriff is the ministerial officer. The great conflux of freeholders, which are supposed always to attend at the county court, is the reason why all acts of parliament at the end of every session *were* wont to be there published by the sheriff; why all outlawries of absconding offenders *are* there proclaimed; and why all popular elections which the freeholders are to make, as *formerly* of sheriffs and conservators of the peace, and *still* of coroners, verdurers, and knights of the shire, must even be made *in pleno comitatu*, or, in full county court. By the statute 2, Edward the Sixth, c. 25. no county court shall be adjourned longer than for one month, consisting of twenty-eight days. And this was also the ancient usage, as appears from the laws of king Edward the Elder. In those times the county court was a court of great dignity and splendour, the bishop and the ealdorman (or earl) with the principal men of the shire sitting therein to administer justice both in lay and ecclesiastical causes, But its dignity was much impaired when the bishop was prohibited and the earl neglected to attend it. And, in modern times, as proceedings are removeable from hence into the king’s superior courts, by writ of *pone* or *recordare*, in the same manner as from hundred-courts, and courts-baron; and as the same writ of false judgment may be had, in nature of a writ of error; this has occasioned the same disuse of bringing actions therein.” The Nottingham county court is held in guild-hall every fourth Wednesday.\*

### **MAYOR’S AND SHERIFFS’ COURT**

FOR THE TOWN AND COUNTY OF THE TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM,

*Sometimes also called the King’s Court of Record.*

It is held by charter from the crown of the 27th of Henry the Sixth, in the following words:—  
“ And that the said burgesses of the said town and their successors for ever, hold a court, at their

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\* An application was made to parliament by the tradesmen of this town, in February, 1785, for a bill to establish a *court of conscience* for the easy recovery of small debts, which was refused on the ground of the existence of the corporate court above named, and its application to the object petitioned for; and on the ground of such a bill interfering with the chartered rights of the town. A court of conscience would not only be unconstitutional here, but it has nothing of *conscience* in its practice but the name.



“pleasure, of all and singular contracts, covenants, and trespasses, as well against the peace as otherwise, and of all other things, causes, and matters whatsoever, arising within the said town and the precincts thereof, except as before excepted, to be held from day to day in the guild-hall of the said town, before the mayor of the said town, or his deputy, and his sheriffs of the same for the time being. &c.”

But, as this court is of such importance to a very considerable part of the inhabitants of this town, and not unfrequently so to non-residents; and as its rules of practice are so little known, even to attorneys themselves, except those that receive instructions from the steward of the court, I will give a copy of the instructions thus furnished, with which I was favored by a gentleman connected with the law, which runs as follows:—

### COPY

This court is held on the Wednesday every fortnight before the mayor and sheriffs, who are its judges. It is a court of record, and holds pleas of all actions whether real, personal, or mixt, to any amount, arising within the county of the town of Nottingham. It is of infinite service in the easy and speedy recovery of small debts, and in the recovery of possessions when withheld from the owners, and who otherwise could have no redress, except at the expense of nearly one-fifth of the value of the property withheld. The judges depute a steward, for the purpose of issuing writs of *capias*,\* the only mesne process of the court on the requisition of any person, and for filing its proceedings, and recording its judgments. There are two serjeants at mace, who attend the court and execute the process, and who are considered ministerial officers. To them it belongs to take bail or pledges for the appearance of any debtor when arrested; and they and the sureties, which they give to the sheriffs annually, are answerable for the responsibility of the pledges. These pledges are in the nature of special bail; and the same proceedings are had against them as against the persons who are special bail in the courts above. The steward is the under sheriff of the town; and, on the election of the new officers by the body corporate, at Michaelmas annually, he is appointed by the mayor and sheriffs, and takes an oath which is administered to him by the town clerk. All the attorneys who reside in Nottingham have a right to practice therein; but none who reside at a distance have been suffered so to do, *as a matter of right*; although attorneys are not admitted and sworn in this court, as in some others. All attorneys administer oaths of a debt, service of process, &c. but they ought regularly to have a commission so to do, although that is always dispensed with.—The rules for conducting the proceedings in this court are as follows, viz:—

That, whenever any debtor shall be arrested and taken to gaol, on process of this court, the plaintiff shall be obliged to file a declaration against him at the next court day after his being taken to gaol, and shall enter with the steward a rule for the debtor to plead thereto; providing four days shall have passed between such debtor's going to gaol, and such court day (the day of going to gaol and the court day excluded;) and if four days shall not have intervened, then at the first court after such four clear days shall have passed. And such plaintiff shall proceed, at the first court after such declaration is filed, to enter in the steward's book a peremptory rule for the defendant to plead; and at the second court, after the declaration is filed, shall sign his interlocutory judgment; having first given the defendant personally, or left with the gaoler for him, a notice in writing in the usual form, of the declaration being filed eight days previous thereto, the day of giving the notice included, and the day of signing the interlocutory judgment excluded. And, on such judgment being signed, shall enter into the steward's book a notice of executing the inquiry the next court day; and shall give to such prisoner personally, or leave with the gaoler for him, a notice in writing in the usual form, and the time and place of such inquiry being intended to be executed eight days previous thereto, the

\* The literal meaning of this word is, “You take to satisfy.” It is a writ authorizing the capture or seizure of a defendant; but in practice it is divided into two sorts. First, *Capias ad respondendum*, “You take to answer.”—A writ issuing to take the defendant for the purpose of making him answerable to the plaintiff. Secondly, *Capias ad satisfaciendum*, “You take to satisfy.”—A writ of execution after judgment, empowering the officer to take and detain the body of the defendant until satisfaction be made to the plaintiff.—*The Author*.

day of giving notice included, and the day of inquiry being excluded; and shall proceed to execute his inquiry accordingly after such next court after interlocutory judgment signed; and shall proceed to sign final judgment and charge the defendant in execution on the next succeeding court day after inquiry executed, otherwise the defendant, in fault of any one of such proceedings, at the above times, shall be discharged at the court day, after such neglect made, on motion, and entering a common appearance to the action. That no notice of declaration or inquiry shall be of any effect, unless the declaration shall be previously lodged with the steward, and the judgment regularly signed in the steward's book. That, in case a prisoner shall plead a demurrer to any declaration or other proceedings, the plaintiff shall proceed to reply, or join in demurrer at the next court after such plea or demurrer is filed; and, if such prisoner shall rejoin, the plaintiff shall file his rebutter at the next court day after the rejoinder is filed; and that whenever any issue of law or fact is tendered to the plaintiff he shall join therein at the next court after it is offered in any proceeding by any prisoner; and that such plaintiff shall give to such prisoner personally, or leave with the gaoler for him, a notice in writing in the usual form (issues not being delivered in this court) of the cause being intended to be tried, or demurrer argued, at the next court after such issue is joined eight days previous thereto, the one inclusive, and the other exclusive; and shall not afterwards countermand such notice of trial or argument. And that, if the verdict be given for the plaintiff, he shall sign final judgment thereon, and charge the defendant in execution on the next court day after such verdict given. And that if any plaintiff shall neglect any one of the above proceedings at the above times, the defendant shall, on motion to, and order of this court, entering a common appearance to the action, be discharged. That in all actions, where the defendant shall be served with a copy of process of this court, or shall have given pledges for his appearance, the plaintiff shall be allowed as much time to proceed as he thinks proper, so as not to exceed one year from the time the action is commenced, providing the defendant does not object thereto. But the defendant shall always have it in his power to *nonpros*\* the plaintiff in any stage of the cause previous to issue being joined, and having given two rules in the steward's book for him to declare, reply, † surrejoin, surrebut, or join issue on two several court days, previous to the court at which such judgment of *nonpros* is signed. That before any plaintiff shall be permitted to sign interlocutory judgment against the defendant he shall have first entered in the steward's book two rules to plead, rejoin, or rebut, at two several court days previous to such judgment being signed, and given to, or left for the defendant at his last, or usual place of abode, if he shall not have entered an appearance; but if he shall not have entered such appearance then with his attorney, or at his place of abode, eight days notice of a declaration having been filed against such defendant in the action, in the usual form, the day of giving such notice to be considered inclusive, and the day of signing the judgment exclusive; and, before any inquiry shall be executed in any cause, a like notice shall be given. That in causes where the defendant is not in custody, the plaintiff's attorney shall give the defendant's attorney eight days notice of trial in the usual form, (issues not being delivered in this court) the one of such days to be accounted inclusive, and the other exclusive. And that, if the plaintiff shall not proceed to trial, nor countermand by notice in writing, to be left with the defendant's attorney, or at his place of abode, four days before such intended trial, one of such days inclusive, and the other exclusive, the plaintiff shall pay unto the defendant the like costs as if such notice of trial had not been countermanded, to be taxed by the steward; and he shall not be permitted to proceed to trial until such costs are paid. That upon any issue being joined, if the plaintiff's attorney shall not within two court days then after give notice of trial, and within three court days proceed to try the same, the defendant's attorney may, the third court, enter a rule for the plaintiff to try such issue the fourth court day; and in the mean time to give the usual notice of eight days thereof. And if the plaintiff's attorney shall not give such notice, then, at the fourth day, or any subsequent court, notice of trial by proviso may be entered in the steward's book by the defendant's attorney, who may proceed to give the plaintiff's attorney the like notice of trial for the fifth,

\* On the meaning of this compound, and yet abbreviated word, Blackstone speaks as follows, under the head, "Private Wrongs:"—For, if the plaintiff neglects to deliver a declaration for two terms after the defendant appears, or is guilty of other delays or defaults against the rules of law in any subsequent stage of the action, he is adjudged *not to follow* or pursue his remedy as he ought to do, and therefore a *nonsuit*, or *non prosequitur*, is entered; and he is said to be *nonprossed*. And thus deserting his complaint, after making a false claim or complaint (*pro falso clamore suo*) he shall not only pay costs to the defendant, but is liable to be amerced to the king.

† *Surrejoin*—A reply to a rejoinder—*Surrebut*—A reply to a rebutter.

or any subsequent court, as he himself was entitled to before the plaintiff could have tried such cause; and having given such notice, may proceed to trial thereon, at such fifth, or any subsequent court accordingly. That if a defendant surrender himself in discharge of the pledges, or his attorney shall give notice thereof unto the plaintiff's attorney, from which time the proceedings must be carried on, conformable to the rules for proceeding against a prisoner.---- That no *scire facias*\* shall issue against any pledge or pledges until after a *capias ad satisfaciendum* has been issued, and lodged eight days inclusive in the hands of one of the serjeants at mace previous to the return thereof. That a copy of such *scire facias* shall be served on each of such pledges, at least six clear days, both exclusive, before the return thereof, and before it shall be returned *scire fesi*. And that if the defendant is surrendered in discharged of his pledges, at any time before the return of the second *scire facias*, and before the return of the first, if returned, *scire facias*, or on the return day *cedente curia*,† the pledges be discharged. That, in causes in ejectment, only one rule shall be entered to plead, reply, &c. before judgment shall be signed. That no longer time be allowed to a plaintiff or a defendant than is specified in the above mentioned rules, except by leave of the court, on sufficient cause shewn. That before final judgment shall be signed upon any *cognovit actionem*,‡ or on confession of the damages which any plaintiff has sustained, an affidavit shall be filed with the steward of this court of the due execution of such confession of judgment and damages, together therewith. That no plaintiff be permitted to discontinue any action, but on motion to, and by leave of the court. That no declaratory plea, or plea in abatement be admitted to be filed after an imparlance.§ That no rule be made for bringing up any insolvent debtor on his petition for receiving the benefit of the Lords' Act within less than six weeks of such petition being filed.

### TOWN WATCH.

When we consider the vast sums of money annually expended in the internal government of the town, which are exacted under the name of *county or town rates*, astonishment is naturally excited at seeing the *watch*, pitiful in point of number, under the necessity of being maintained by voluntary contribution; while the great bulk of the inhabitants, whose situations in life prevent their uniting in this necessary measure of self-defence, are exposed to the depredations of those misguided mortals whose guilty purposes induce them to set the vengeance of the laws at defiance, for want of nocturnal guardians. And, without, in the slightest degree, intending to impugn the conduct, views, intentions, or pursuits of the magistracy, I feel it a duty incumbent upon me to give it as my opinion, as an impartial observer and narrator, that there is more money expended in detecting, supporting, securing, and prosecuting delinquents and supposed delinquents, than, if partially otherwise applied, would prevent a great part of the robberies from being committed. My opinion may be founded in error of judgment; but that error of judgment (supposing it to be so) never can be made manifest without practical application. And, it is an axiom, founded on the broad principles of moral justice, that every crime which is committed, that might have been prevented by a judicious management of the means commensurate with the necessity of the case, is a breach made in the moral system of society by those whose duty it is to keep the fabric in repair. For crimes not only contaminate youth by example, in the divergency of their baneful allurements, as the

\* A writ which orders a defendant to shew cause why execution shall not be made out of a judgment which has passed against him.

† During the sitting of the court.

‡ This is law is where a defendant confesses the plaintiff's cause of action against him to be just and true; and, after issue, suffers judgment to be entered against him without trial.

§ Imparlance, in this case, means a motion for respite to put in an answer.

ignis-fatuus, or *foolish fire*, leads the inexperienced into its native quagmires, but they add greatly to the weight of local taxation ; and they swell most materially and fatally the masses of human misery and disgrace, by partially involving whole families and unsuspecting connections in their consequences. They also prevent their perpetrators from performing that duty in society which nature intended them to perform.

But, supposing that a well-regulated nightly watch would prevent the commission of many crimes, and their appalling consequences, in this town, the magistrates are not to be blamed for not having enforced the measure ; for, as it would be attended with considerable expense, the captious and illnated would attribute to them motives of oppression and unbridled authority, if they enforced it, and carefully keep back, as far as their means afforded, all investigation into the happy consequences likely to result. Therefore, it is the duty of the housekeepers at large to petition the bench at the quarter sessions on the subject ; in which case, there can be little doubt of such petition meeting with due attention.

The reader will judge for himself, whether this town is properly watched during the night, when he considers that about 35,000 inhabitants are scattered through upwards of 400 street s lanes, &c. and that nine or ten men, four of whom watch the market-place, are employed to walk *almost* twenty streets. In 1815, in consequence of the numerous depredations committed in several streets, *where no watch was kept*, the housekeepers therein obtained permission to be sworn in the capacity of special constables, and, by taking their turns as watchmen of the night, have preserved the neighbourhood in security.\*

The anonymous author, to whom Deering so frequently alludes, gives the following account of a watch, which was anciently kept here, and continued till the troubles in the reign of Charles the First :—"In this town," says this writer, "by an ancient custom, they keep yearly a general watch every Midsummer eve at night, to which every inhabitant of any ability sets forth a man, as well volunteers as those who are charged with arms, with such munition as they have ; some pikes, some muskets, calivers, or other guns, some partisans, halberts, and such as have armour send their servants in their armour. The number of these are yearly almost two hundred, who at sun-setting meet on the Row, the most open part of the town, where the mayor's serjeant at mace gives them an oath, the tenor whereof followeth in these words." To wit. "They shall well and truly keep this town till to-morrow at sun-rising ; you shall come into no house without license or cause reasonable. Of all manner of casualties, of fire, or crying of children, you shall due warning make to the parties, as the case shall require you. You shall due search make of all manner of affrays, bloodsheds, outcries, and of all other things that be suspected. You shall due presentment make of the same, either to Mr. Mayor, the sheriffs, or other officers. If any strangers come to the town, well and demeanably to behave yourself to them courteously, and to entreat them, and to bring them to their Inns, and well and secretly keep the watch, and other things that belong to the same watch, well and truly do, to your cunning and power."

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\* In the Bridlesmith-gate round there is a timepiece, called a *superintender* to which, if the watchman do not apply a key every half hour, it will inform its keeper in the morning, that the nightly guardian has not done his duty.

This farcical display of nocturnal guardianship, which, annually, had its inauguration, amplification, and quietus during the course of one of the shortest nights in the year, is further illustrated by the writer in question in the following words:—"One reason, besides the points of the oath rendered for this custom is, to keep their armour clean and fair, with all their accoutrements, fit and ready to use upon any sudden occasion. In this business the fashion is for every watchman to wear a garland, made in the fashion of a crown imperial, bedecked with flowers of various kinds, some natural, some artificial, bought and kept for that purpose, as also ribands, jewels, and for the better garnishing whereof, the townsmen use the day before, to ransack the gardens of all the gentlemen with six or seven miles about Nottingham, besides what the town itself affords them, their greatest ambition being to out do one another in the bravery of their garlands."

This custom seems to have been lost in the regular military watch during the conflict between Charles and the people, and that, in its turn, having ceased with the troubles which gave it birth, the corporation subsequently employed four watchmen, who, for want of some superior active power to *watch them*, became so remiss in their duty, that they were discontinued. And, in consequence of the numerous depredations committed, after the conclusion of the American war, the inhabitants in general, in the year 1788, formed themselves into associations for mutual defence, They accordingly agreed that every housekeeper should, in person or by deputy, watch a night in rotation, in such parties as the respective associations agreed upon. This system, however, soon fell to the ground, as the poor found it a task frequently violatory of their necessary avocations:—And the more wealthy adopted the plan which is now in use; and which is so inadequate to the general security of the inhabitants.

### MAYORS,

An imperfect list of the mayors of Nottingham from 1284 to 1589, the first five I having been enabled to add to the lists hitherto published, and which, of course embrace the first mayor; for though the charter of Edward the First, that grants the privilege of choosing a burgess to that high office, was signed in 1283, yet the first mayor was not elected till St. Michael's-day in 1284.

1284 Roger de Crophill	1384 John Samon	1441 William Halifax
1286 Hugone le Fleming	1389 John de Crowshagh	1444 Thomas Alastre
1294 Johannes le Pannier	1390 John de Croweshawe	1447 Gualfrid Knyveton
1295 Johannes de Fleming	1391 Henry de Normanton	1449 Thomas Thurland
1296 Randulphus Hufton	1393 William Huntsman	1458 Thomas Thurland
1302 Johannes fil' de le Paumer	1394 John de Plumptre	1467 John Hunt
1314 Robert Ingram	1399 John de Tannesley	1469 Thomas Alastre
1330 Nicholas de Shelford	1404 Robert Glade	1470 Robert Englishe
1332 Lawrence le Spicer	1412 Robert Glade	1471 Thomas Lockton
1334 William de Amyas	1415 Thomas Kay	1475 Thomas Hunt
1335 Roger de Botchal	1422 Thomas Poge	1486 William Hyggyn
1340 Ralph de Wolaton	1425 William Stokes	1487 Richard Ody
1367 John Samon	1427 John de Plumptre	1506 Richard Melleurs
1370 John Samon	1429 William Broadhelm	1507 Richard Pykerde
1379 John de Plumptre	1437 John de Plumptre	1522 Thomas Mellors
1382 John Samon	1438 William Webster	1544 John Plumptre

1548 Robert Lovat	1576 Henry Newton	1584 Peter Clarke
1551 Thomas Cockayne	1577 Richard James	1585 William Scot
1557 William Atkynson	1578 William Scot	1586 John Gregory
1571 John Gregory	1580 Robert Alvey	1587 Robert Alvey
1574 Robert Burton	1581 Robert Burton	1588 Robert Marsh

*A more perfect list, from 1590 to the present time.*

1590 John Brownlow	1626 Peter Parker	1662 Christopher Hall
1591 Peter Clarke	1627 John James	1663 William Greaves
1592 William Scot	1628 Richard Parker	1664 Ralph Edge
1593 William Trott	1629 Alexander Staples	1665 William Jackson
1594 Robert Alvey	1630 Robert Sherwin	1666 Richard Hodgekins
1595 Richard Hurt	1631 Leonard Nix	1667 Joseph Wright
1596 Richard Morehaghe	1632 William Gregory	1668 John Parker
1597 Peter Clarke	1633 Robert Parker	1669 Christopher Hall
1598 Anker Jackson	1634 John James	1670 William Greaves
1599	1635 Richard Hardmeat	1671 Ralph Edge
1600 Humphrey Bonner	1636 William Nix	1672 William Jackson
1601	1637 Robert Sherwin	1673 Richard Hodgekins
1602 Richard Hurt	1638 Robert Burton	1674 Joseph Wright
1603 Richard Morehaghe	1639 William Gregory	1675 John Parker
1604 Richard Welsh	1640 William Drury	1676 Christopher Hall
1605 Anker Jackson	1641 John James	1677 William Greaves
1606 William Freeman	1642 Richard Hardmeat	1678 Ralph Edge
1607 Humphrey Bonner	1643 William Nix	1679 John Parker
1608 Robert Staples	1644 William Nix	1680 Gervas Rippon
1609 Richard Hurt	1645 Thomas Gamble	1681 Gervas Wyld
1610 Richard Morehaghe	1646 John James	1682 William Toplady
1611 Richard Welsh	1647 William Drury	1683 Christopher Hall
1612 Anker Jackson	1648 William Richards	1684 William Petty
1613 William Freeman	1649 William Nix	1685 Robert Wortley
1614 Marmed Gregory	1650 Thomas Gamble	1686 John Parker
1615 Robert Staples	1651 Richard Dring	1687* { Gervas Rippon
1616 Thomas Nix	1652 William Drury	{ John Sherwin
1617 Leonard Nix	1653 Francis Toplady	{ George Langford
1618	1654 John Parker	1688 George Langford
1619 Anker Jackson	1655 Thomas Huthwaite	1689 Charles Harvey
1620 Marmeduke Gregory	1656 William Richards	1690 John Hawkins
1621 Richard Parker	1657 Thomas Gamble	1691 Joseph Turpin
1622 Robert Staples	1658 Richard Dring	1692 William Greaves
1623 Robert Sherwin	1659 William Drury	1693 Thomas Trigge
1624 Leonard Nix	1660 Francis Toplady	1694 Arthur Richards
1625 Stephen Hill	1661 John Parker	1695 John Hoe

\* Gervas Rippon and five aldermen were this year excluded from the corporation by a *quo warranto* of James the Second, for opposing his infractions upon the people's liberties; John Sherwin and George Langford were two of their successors; the former was made mayor, but dying, he was succeeded by the latter in that office, and continued in it the following year.

1696 Francis Samon	1737 William Trigge	1777 Richard Butler
1697 Samuel Leland	1738 John Newton	1778 Thomas Oldknow
1698 William Greaves	1739 James Huthwaite	1779 William Huthwaite
1699 Thomas Collin	1740 Thomas Langford	1780 John Smellie
1700 Samuel Watkinson	1741 Alexander Burden	1781 John Carruthers
1701 John Rickards	1742 William Trigge	1782 John Fellows
1702 John Peake	1743 John Hornbuckle	1783 Richard Butler
1703 Samuel Smith	1744 John Burton	1784 William Howitt
1704 William Barke	1745 Henry Butler	1785 William Huthwaite
1705 John Shipman	1746 James Huthwaite	1786 John Carruthers
1706 Francis Samon	1747 Thomas Langford	1787 Joseph Lowe
1707 William Drury	1748 William Trigge	1788 William Howitt
1708 Samuel Watkinson	1749 John Hornbuckle	1789 { William Smith† Richard Butler
1709 John Peake	1750 John Burton	1790 John Fellows
1710 Samuel Smith	1751 Henry Butler	1791 William Huthwaite
1711 Benjamin Green	1752 James Huthwaite	1792 Joseph Oldknow
1712 William Barke	1753 Thomas Langford	1793 Henry Green
1713 John Collin	1754 William Trigge	1794 Thomas Caunt
1714 John Shipman	1755 Samuel Fellows	1795 Benjamin Hornbuckle
1715 Thomas Hawksley*	1756 John Burton	1796 William Howitt
Samuel Watkinson	1757 Cornelius Huthwaite	1797 Joseph Lowe
1716 John Sherwin	1758 Henry Butler	1798 Thomas Oldknow
1717 Thomas Trigge	1759 { Isaac Wyld Thomas Langford	1799 Joseph Oldknow
1718 Marmaduke Pennel	1760 Robert Huish	1800 Samuel Worthington
1719 Richard Bearn	1761 James Hornbuckle	1801 John Davison
1720 William Bilbie	1762 Humphrey Hollins	1802 Benjamin Hornbuckle
1721 Benjamin Green	1763 Cornelius Huthwaite	1803 Stokeham Huthwaite
1722 Alexander Burden	1764 Henry Butler	1804 John Ashwell
1723 Thomas Trigge	1765 William Cooper	1805 Edward Swann
1724 Marmaduke Pennel	1766 Robie Swann	1806 John Allen
1725 Richard Bearn	1767 James Hornbuckle	1807 Joseph Lowe
1726 William Bilbie	1768 William Faulds	1808 William Howitt
1727 Joseph Walters	1769 Humphrey Hollins	1809 Wright Coldham
1728 Benjamin Green	1774 Richard Butler	1810 John Bates
1729 Alexander Burden	1771 Cornelius Huthwaite	1811 William Wilson
1730 William Trigge	1772 { Henry Butler Richard Butler	1812 Edward Swann
1731 Thomas Trigge†	1773 Thomas Oldknow	1813 John Allen
1732 John Huthwaite	1774 John Carruthers	1814 John Ashwell
1733 Thomas Langford	1775 John Fellows	1815 Charles Lomas Morley
1734 William Bilbie	1776 Thomas Sands	
1735 Benjamin Green		
1736 Alexander Burden		

\* The cause of Mr. Hawksley's expulsion will be noticed in a more proper place.

† In one of the Mayoralties of Thomas Trigge, he, according to tradition, caused a woman to be placed in the Cuckstool for prostitution, and left her to the mercy of a foolish mob; through which she lost her life, and he was prosecuted, and the Cuckstool taken down.

‡ Mr. Smith resigned to avoid the consequences of a prosecution for holding the office, without having taken the Test Oath.

**LIST of SHERIFFS for the TOWN of NOTTINGHAM**  
FROM THE EARLIEST RECORDS NOW EXTANT.

1574 Robtus Phypys	1619 Willius Mastyn, Willius Nyxe
1576 Edws Burton, Thomas Donycliffe	1620 Robtus Bugge, Edwdus Morrice
1577 Humfrus Bonar, Georgius Hutchinson	1621 Gabriel Bateman, Cuthbert Vayn
1578 Georgius Widowson, Johes Curson	1622 Willius Parker, Rogerus Derbyshire
1579 Thoms Reve, Ricus Tomlynson	1623 Willius Hopkyn, Willus Lupton
1580 Robt. Yorke, Simon Pyckerd	1624 Thomas Cooke, Willius Littlefare
1581 Willius Pyggen, Roger Wood	1625 Richus Collishawe, Johes Dodsley
1582 Willius Greves Ricus Hurte	1626 Willius Stainey, Robtus Egginton
1583 Robtus Small, Robtus Hallame	1627 Alex Staples, Robtus Graves
1584 Thomas Huthwayte, Anker Jackson	1628 Richard Hardmett, Robtus Harris
1585 Johes. Hall, Thomas Wallys	1629 Edws Richards, Johes Poynton
1586 Ezachias Newhold, Hen Donne	1630 Richus Dringge, Willius Frost
1587 Johes Noden, Nichus Sherwyn	1631 Francis Toplady, Richus Hare
1588 Edwardus Goodwyn, Robtus Stables	1632 Gabriel Groves, Jacobus Beardsley
1589 Ricus Parlebye, Radus Shawe	1633 Edwas Bampton, Willus Wattson
1590 Willius Freemane, Nichas Baguley	1634 Homfridus Greaves, Ranulphus Millner
1591 Edws Jowett, Leondus Nixe	1635 Willius Richards, Willius Drewrie
1592 Johes Johnson, Ricus Welche	1636 Thomas Wolley, Richus Turpyne
1593 Tho. Drurie, Ricus Recklesse	1637 Thomas Malen, Thomas Millner
1594 Martinus James, Willius Widdoson	1638 Josephus Winfield, Thomas Jackson
1595 Willus Langhford, Willius Wylson	1639 Henric James, Thomas Gamble
1596 Willius Knyveton, Georgius Stockley	1640 Johannes Cooper, Willus Parker
1597 Henricus Scott, Willius Pynder	1641 Johes Sherwin, Willius Sherwin
1598 Franciscus Rollston, Henricus Allvey	1642 Johes Tomlyn, Georgius Allsebrook
1599 Jacobus Hobson, Ricus Parker	1643 Richus Hyder, Paulus Hooton
1600 Jacobus Wolfe, Johes Parker	1644 Thomas Smyth, Willius Bayley
1601 Thomas Hill, Marmadueus Gregory	1645 Johes Fillingham, Adrian Garner, or Canner
1602 Robtus Sherwyn, Jacobus Potherham	1646 Johes Parker, Thomas Huthwaite
1603 Willius Littlefare Willius Hynde	1647 Ricus Whitby, Willius Ryley
1604 Thomas Nyx, Robtus Parker	1648 Thomas Green, Robert Smyth
1605 Robtus Freeman, Antonius Gamble	1649 Johes Reckless, Ricus Watkinson
1606 Ricus Rechlesse, Georgius Ryley	1650 Joshua Hill, Willius Hall
1607 Thomas Morley, Robtus Heald	1651 Edmund Richards, Robert Malyn
1608 Nichas Sherwyn, Johes Dalton	1652 Robert Saxton, Barnaby Wartnabye
1609 Jacobus Seele, Ricus Hare	1653 Thomas Cooper, Brownlowe Egginton
1610 Lodovicus Oxley, Stephus Hill	1654 Daniel Sulley, Francis Coeke
1611 Georgius Walker, Henr. Bangley, or <i>Baguley</i>	1655 Roger Riley, Richard Smith
1612 Willius Clarke, Percivallus Millington	1656 Richard Crampton, John Smalley
1613 Ricus Jowett, Joseph Allvey	1657 William Pettye, William Lealand
1614 Jo. Perrye, Willius Ludlam	1658 William Parker, John Toplady
1615 Willius Rockett, Willius Hnnt	1659 William Drewrie, Isaak Malyn
1616 Samuel Burrows, Willius James	1660 Adrian Cooke, Samuel Ryley
1617 Michael Coke, Hugo Verdon	1661 Ricus Hodgskyn, Willius Burton
1618 Willius Gregorie, Johes James	1662 William Toplady



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|--|---|
| 1663 Xtoferus Hall, Gervasius Rippon               | 1711 John Sherwin, John Sweetapple                        |
| 1664   | 1712 Gervas Pilkinton, Joseph Hemus                       |
| 1665   | 1713 John Huthwaite, Bartholomew Hallam                   |
| 1666   | 1714 Marmaduke Pennell                                    |
| 1667 Robtus Kirkhye, Johes Rawson                  | 1715 Robert Egginton, Lawrence Burn                       |
| 1668 Jos Clay, Edus White                          | 1716 John Newton, Wm. Shepherd, John Radforth             |
| 1669 Gervasius Wilde, Samuel Richards              | 1717 Joseph Walters                                       |
| 1670 Benjaminus Richards, Radus Bennett            | 1718 Jonathan Traman, Ricus Smith                         |
| 1671 Arthurus Reccards, Willus White               | 1719 Willus Garton, Samuel Poe                            |
| 1672 Ricus Smyth, Robtus Coulson                   | 1720 William Robenson, Edmund Wildbore                    |
| 1673 Willus Wilde, Johes Parker                    | 1721 John Burton, Robert Egginton                         |
| 1674 Samuel Smith, Francis Salmon                  | 1722 James Hoe, James Huthwaite, <i>junior</i>            |
| 1675 Hugo Walker, Adrian Gamble                    | 1723 Nathaniel Charnell, John Hornbuckle                  |
| 1676 Thomas Muxlow, Robtus Worthely                | 1724 Samuel Harris, John Poe                              |
| 1677 Willus Coulton, Harroldus Smyth               | 1725 John Morley, William Bilbie, <i>junior</i>           |
| 1678   | 1726 Richard Wheldon, Roger Radforth                      |
| 1679 Willus Woolhouse, Franciscus Sumner           | 1727 John Harnill, Joseph Inglesant                       |
| 1680 — Shir (supposed) John Shirwin, Saml. Lealand | 1728 Jonathan Freeman, <i>junior</i> , Henry Butler       |
| 1681 Robert Green, Jo Malyn                        | 1729 John Wood, Samuel Fellows                            |
| 1682 Robtus Peache, Johes Whithy                   | 1730 Stephen Egginton, Cornelius Huthwaite                |
| 1683 Johes Peach, Johes Huthwaite                  | 1731 John Foxcroft, John Bilbie                           |
| 1684 Thomas Lee, Johes Shipman                     | 1732 Thomas Langford, Leavis Sherwin                      |
| 1685 Willius Jackson, John Unwyn                   | 1733 Isaac Wylde, Joseph Finch                            |
| 1686 H. Hardy, S. Partridge                        | 1734 Francis Parkyns, Joseph Smith                        |
| 1687 Johes Scattergood, Rich. Wright               | 1735 Joseph Wright, Joseph Bilbie                         |
| 1688 John Huthwaite, George Cooke                  | 1736 James Dymock, Robert Huish                           |
| 1689 Samuel Watkinson, William Cockle              | 1737 Charles Morley, James Hornbuckle                     |
| 1690 William Orme, William Bains                   | 1738 Thomas Shaw, Joseph Wright                           |
| 1691 Jacobus Huthwaite, Benjamin Green             | 1739 Humphrey Hollins, Samuel Wood                        |
| 1692 Johes Hoe, Edrus Hickling                     | 1740 William Cooper, John Sherbrook, <i>junior</i>        |
| 1693 Samuel Smith, Fr. Armstrong                   | 1741 Alexander Burden, <i>junior</i> , Benjamin Bull      |
| 1694 John Kitchin, William Barke                   | 1742 James Huthwaite, <i>junior</i> , Robie Swann         |
| 1695 Roger Radforth, Robert Linley                 | 1743 William Goodwin, William Foulds                      |
| 1696 Robert Harrison, John Grevas                  | 1744 John Killingly, <i>junior</i> , Thomas Haywood       |
| 1697 Thomas James, Robert Allicock                 | 1745 John Oldkoow, John Sands                             |
| 1698 Thomas Lovet, John Richards                   | 1746 Thomas Cotes, Thomas Oldkoow                         |
| 1699 Francis Metham, George Frith                  | 1747 John Plumptre, <i>junior</i> , William Cotton        |
| 1700 Joseph Cooke, William Bilby                   | 1748 John Eggerton, Humphrey Cox                          |
| 1701 Richard Bearn, Alexander Burden               | 1749 Benjamin Mather, Richard Butler                      |
| 1702 John Reynolds, John Collin                    | 1750 Jonathan Dodson, William Seagrave, <i>town clerk</i> |
| 1703   | 1751 Thomas Worthington, John Carruthers                  |
| 1704 William Johnson, Thomas Hawksley              | 1752 John Blackwell, Thomas Spibye                        |
| 1705 William Drury, Robert Brentnall               | 1753 John Fellows, Thomas Sands                           |
| 1706 William Rippon, Francis Smith                 | 1754 W. Huthwaite, R. Seagrave, <i>town clerk in 1758</i> |
| 1707 Lionel Lamb, Thomas White                     | 1755 John Smellie, John Inglesant                         |
| 1708 Jacob Tibson, Thomas Fillingham               | 1756 Mark Huish, Alexander Foxcroft                       |
| 1709 Alvery Dodsley, Matthew Hoyland               | 1757 John Wilson, Robert Foulds                           |
| 1710 Robert Hoyes, Thomas Trigge                   | 1758 Robert Hall, John Wells                              |

1759 John Foxcroft, Joseph Stubbins  
 1760 James Foxcroft, George Dodson  
 1761 John Padley, William Howitt  
 1762 Benjamin Foxcroft, Matthew Whitlock  
 1763 Isaac Wylde, Joseph Lowe  
 1764 Benjamin Hornbuckle, John Sands  
 1765 William Bettison, Benjamin Mather  
 1766 John Doncaster, William Smith, *junior*  
 1767 Henry Hollins, George Sands  
 1768 Thomas Oldknow, *junior*, Michael Hayes  
 1769 Joseph Heath, Joseph Oldknow  
 1770 Samuel Eaton, John Oldknow  
 1771 William Wells, Henry Green  
 1772 John Wells, Robert Cox  
 1773 George Burbage, John Collishaw, *junior*  
 1774 Ralph Newham, William Heath, *junior*  
 1775 Edward Chatteris, Samuel Newham  
 1776 Smith Churchill, Tertius Dale  
 1777 Sir George Smith, Baronet, Samuel Statham  
 1778 Samuel Heywood, Robert Summers  
 1779 Samuel Worthington, Samuel Green  
 1780 John Buxton, *junior*, John Ball Mason  
 1781 John Fellows, *junior*, John Hancock  
 1782 Thomas Caunt, Thomas Wright Watson  
 1783 Henry Keyworth, John Need  
 1784 Edward Swann, Alexander Strahan  
 1785 John Heath, George Dodson, *junior*  
 1786 Stokeham Huthwaite, Thomas Hawksley  
 1787 John Davison, Thomas Nelson  
 1788 Timothy Fellows, William Huthwaite, *junior*  
 1789 Joseph Hurst Lowe, Joseph Heath  
 1790 John Whitlock, Elihu Samuel Fellows  
 1791 William Doncaster, John Stone  
 1792 Thomas Wilde, Thomas Pepper  
 1793 Nathaniel Whitlock, Thomas Carpenter Smith

1794 Thomas Richards, Henry Green, *junior*\*  
 1795 John Allen, John Ashwell  
 1796 Thomas Richards, Nathaniel Need, *junior*  
 1797 Coraelius Huthwaite, William Dawson  
 1798 Wright Coldham, William Wilson  
 1799 Robert Hall, *junior*, Jonathan Dunn  
 1800 George Nelson, Henry Enfield  
 1801 John Allen, Thomas Whiter  
 1802 William Howitt, William Hickling  
 1803 George Nelson, Thomas Williams  
 1804 Charles Lomas Morley, John Houseman Barber  
 1805 Charles Mellor, Edward Staveley  
 1806 Octavius Thomas Oldknow, Alexander Strahan  
 1807 John Bates, Wright Coldham  
 1808 John Carr, Francis Wakefield, *junior*  
 1809 Kirk Swann, William Morley  
 1810 Charles Wakefield, John Stevens Howitt  
 1811 Isaac Woolley, Samuel Hall  
 1812 Edward Allatt Swann, Alfred Lowe  
 1813 Charles Lomas Morley, John Michael Fellows  
 1814 John Allen, *junior*, William Soars  
 1815 Richard Hopper, Thomas Wakefield

In the foregoing list of sheriffs, which to the year 1808, is taken from the town clerk's book, I have not altered a single letter, or changed a figure, or shifted a name, except in the following instance, which I did under an impression that a mistake had crept into the record, though it is possible that I may have been mistaken. The year 1714 was a blank, and Marmaduke Pennell was placed to the year 1715, and the five succeeding names to the year 1716, which the reader will see I have altered.

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\* The names of Thomas Richards, John Allen, and Wright Coldham occur twice; the reason is, that they served for other persons. For instance, Mr. Coldham served for George Coldham, his brother, *town clerk*.

The following lists of *recorders* and *town clerks*, I have likewise been favored with from the town clerk's books, as they appear, with the exception of two alterations of dates in the list of recorders, which were done to correspond with the dates in the British Peerage.

### ***LIST of RECORDERS for the TOWN of NOTTINGHAM.***

1500 Thomas Babynton, Armiger	1707 Evelyn, Marquis of Dorchester, created Duke of Kingston, 1715
1574 Radus Barton, Armiger	1726 Thomas Holles, Duke of Newcastle
Richard Parkyns, Armiger	1768 Henry Fynes Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle
1603 Sir Henry Pierrepont, Knight	1794 William Henry Cavendish Bentinck, Duke of Portland
1616 Wills Fletcher, Armiger	1809 The Right Honorable Henry Richard Vassall Fox, Lord Holland*
1642 Johes Comés de Clare	
1668 Henricus, Marchoi Dorchester	
1680 Henricus, Dux Newcastle	
1690 William, Earl of Devonshire, created Duke 1694	

### ***LIST of TOWN CLERKS for the TOWN of NOTTINGHAM.***

1574 Nichus Plumtre, Gent.	Henry Morris, Gent.
1597 Willus Gregory, Gent.	1731 Richard Smith, Gent.
1617 Robtus Greaves, Gent.	1744 William Seagrave, Gent.
1644 Willus Flamsteed, Gent.	1758 Robert Seagrave, Gent.
1653 Robtus Greaves, Gent.	1791 Richard Enfield, Gent.
1661 Radulphus Edge, Gent.	1791 George Coldham, Gent.
1684 Carolus Bawdes, Gent.	1814 Henry Enfield, Gent.
1692 Edward Althorpe, Gent.	
1696 Lawrance Althorpe, Gent.	

\* In the speech which Lord Holland made at his inauguration into office, he attributed the distinguished honor which the corporate body had conferred upon him to the high esteem in which they held the venerated name of his uncle, the late Right Hon. Charles James Fox. And the following letter, which was addressed to H. Green, Esq. Mayor, and which I have given from the letter itself in Mr. Fox's hand-writing, will shew on what that high esteem was founded:—

TO HENRY GREEN, ESQ. MAYOR OF NOTTINGHAM,

SIR,—I have received your letter of the 4th instant. for which I return you my most sincere thanks. It is certainly true that I was asked whether I would accept of the recordership of Nottingham, and at the same time fairly informed, that it was an honor which had been designed to be offered to the Duke of Portland, but that the different systems of conduct in public affairs, which his Grace and I had respectively adopted, induced several persons to think that the compliment might with greater propriety be paid to me. In answer to this inquiry I said that it was my opinion, that in the present situation of things, the circumstance of its having been intended for the Duke of Portland previous to the late differences in politics, did not appear to me to be a reason why I should refuse a compliment which so much flattered me. At the same time I stated that the honor in question was one which I should never have thought of soliciting. I was induced to give this answer, not from motives of personal vanity, but because, in the present very critical state of affairs, I thought that a declaration of so respectable a body as the corporation of Nottingham, in favor of the principles and conduct of the minority in both houses of parliament might be eminently serviceable to the public. I now understand that there is still a disposition to choose the Duke of Portland, possibly in the majority, but certainly in a considerable and respectable number of the electors, and that if I were to succeed in being elected recorder, it could only be by a personal contest with his Grace. And I will fairly confess to you, that in these circumstances my dislike to a contest of this nature, with a person for whom I have such real esteem as I entertain for the Duke of Portland, however I may lament (as I certainly do) the part he has lately taken in public affairs, is such that I wish by no means to engage in it. If there exists the least doubt in the corporation, with respect to whose public conduct at this juncture is to be preferred, the Duke's or mine, I am sure that in every point of view he is a much more proper person to fill the office in question than I am, who have no other connection with you than what arises from having already received from you an unmerited and distinguished honor. With respect to the apprehension which you state of disuniting the body of the whigs, I am sorry to say that I fear little mischief remains to be done

## ECCLESIASTICAL GOVERNMENT OF THE TOWN.

This town is under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the See of York, and the head of an Archdeaconry; over which the Reverend *John Eyre*, rector of Babworth, and one of the residentiaries of York Cathedral, now presides. The Diocese of York was divided into five Archdeaconries by Archbishop *Thomas*, in 1090. To that of Nottingham there is no endowment; and the dignity is subsisted wholly by the perquisites of the office, which, in 1534, were valued at £61 Os. 10d.

Formerly, the archbishop paid the town a triennial visit, for the purpose of confirming the offspring of those, who were adherents to the national establishment; his visits of late years however, have been uncertain. The archdeacon, either by himself, or by his official, holds an annual visitation in St. Mary's Church, at which time the churchwardens of the several parishes are sworn into office.

The Spiritual Court of the Archdeaconry has been held in St. Peter's Church, for ages: but the judicial power is now removed to York. The Reverend Charles Wylde, D. D. rector of St. Nicholas's, in this town, is the official of the Archdeaconry, and surrogate for proving of wills: Mr. Bigsby, attorney-at-law, is the registrar; and John Caunt of this town, and a Mr. Pilgrim of Bingham, are apparitors.

### LIST OF ARCHDEACONS, FROM 1174 TO THE PRESENT TIME.

1174 John ———	1351 John de Brinkelow	1565 John Lowthe
1181 William de Thaney	1353 Richard de Derby	1590 John King
1188 Robert Fitz William	1397 John de Nottingham	1611 Joseph Hall
1190 William Jestand	1415 John de Wadekam	1627 Richard Bayley
1219 William de Rotherham	1418 Simeon de Gaunstede	1635 William Robinson
1224 William de Bodeham	1419 Robert Bower	1660 Vere Harcourt
1240 Thomas de Wynton	1433 Nicholas Wymbish	1683 Thomas White
1262 Henry de Shipton	1461 Thomas Byron	1685 Samuel Crowborough
1286 Thomas de Eadbury	1476 William Worsley	1689 William Pearson
1290 William de Pickering	1499 Thomas Crossley	1715 Robert Marsden
1310 John de Grandison	1506 John Hatton	1748 Hugh Thomas
1328 Gilbert de Heberwick	1516 William Fell	1780 Sir Richard Kaye, Bart.
1330 Manuel de Flisco	1528 Cuthbert Marshall	1810 John Eyre
1331 Ambaldus Cardinal	1549 Robert Silvester	
1351 Robert de Kildesby	1560 William Day	

on that head, and I hope you will excuse my frankness, when I say without knowing your particular sentiments on these subjects, that I cannot give the appellation of whig to persons who support not only the present detestable war, but the infractions of the constitution, and spirit of oppression and persecution which has distinguished the executive government during these last two years. I have been thus particular in order that my declining the contest with the Duke of Portland may be clearly imputed to its true motives, my private and personal regard for his Grace, and not to any thing like an approbation of the public conduct, which I dare say with the best motives, but I fear with the worst consequences, he has thought proper to pursue.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

South-street, 7th April, 1794.

C. J. FOX.

In the above list there appears to be an omission of one archdeacon, since we find that Robert Purselove, who was consecrated suffragan bishop of Hull in 1552, held the Archdeaconry of Nottingham, as is evident from an inscription to his memory in Tideswell church, of which place he was a native. He died May the 2d, 1579; and, in 1560, he was deprived of the Archdeaconry of Nottingham and other spiritual dignities, by Queen Elizabeth, for refusing to take the oath of supremacy.

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It is presumed, that the following list of high sheriffs for the county, from the commencement of the seventeenth century, may be acceptable to the generality of readers; and also the following observations on the power and duty of that high office.

The sheriff (originally denominated *shire reeve*) is an officer of very great antiquity in the kingdom, and called in Latin *Vice Comes*, as being the deputy of the Earl or Comes, to whom the custody of the shire is said to have been committed at the first division of England into counties or shires; but the Earls in process of time, by reason of their high stations and employments, and attending on the king's person, not being able to transact the business of the county, were delivered from that burden, reserving to themselves the honor, but the labour was laid on the sheriff, who does the king's business in the county of which he is sheriff; the King, by his letters patent, committing to him *custodiam comitatus* (or safeguard of the county.)

Sheriffs were formerly chosen by the inhabitants of the several counties (except in Westmoreland where the sheriff is hereditary; and the city of London has the inheritance of the sherievalty of Middlesex invested in its charter): But by the 9th of Edward the Second, the sheriffs are chosen by the judges and great officers of state in the Exchequer Chamber at Westminster, yearly, on the morrow of All Souls, who propose three persons to the king, who afterwards appoints one of them to be sheriff for the succeeding year; but the day of choosing these officers is now altered to the morrow of St. Martin.

The sheriff has great power and authority, judicial and ministerial.—In his judicial capacity he is to determine causes in his county court; to decide all elections of knights of the shire, coroners, verderers, &c. to decide the qualification of voters, and return such gentlemen as he shall determine to be duly elected.—As keeper of the king's peace, he is the first man in the county, and superior in rank to any nobleman therein, during his office. He may apprehend and commit to prison any who break the peace, and bind any one in recognizance to keep the king's peace; he is also bound to pursue, and take, all traitors, murderers, felons, and other misdoers, and commit them to prison for safe custody: also to defend the county against the King's enemies; and for that purpose, as well as for keeping the peace, to summon the people of his county to attend him; which is called *posse comitatus*, and which all above 15 years old, must obey on pain of fine and imprisonment.—In his ministerial capacity the sheriff appoints the gaoler, bailiffs, &c. who execute all processes issuing from the king's courts of justice. In the commencement of civil causes, his officers arrest, and take bail, and summon the jury previous to any trial or inquiry, &c.—In criminal matters he also arrests, and imprisons, has custody of the delinquent, and executes the sentence of the court, though it extend to death itself.

N. B. Prior to the act of parliament of 24th of George II. (1751) intituled "An act for regulating the commencement of the year, and for correcting the calendar now in use," the year commenced on the 25th of March, but by that act all succeeding years were fixed to commence on the 1st of January; and in the interval between the said 1st of January and 25th of March, the sheriffs are usually appointed.

## ***SHERIFFS FOR THE COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAM,***

### **FROM THE YEAR 1700, TO THE PRESENT TIME.**

1700 Richard Hacker, of Newark-upon-Trent, Esq.	1735 Thomas Lister, of Bawtry, Esq.
1701 Joseph Harbord, of Gringley, Esq.	1736 William Burnell, of Winkburne, Esq.
1702 William Burnell, of Winkburne, Esq.	1737 William Challand, of Wellow, Esq.
1703 Henry Sherbrooke, of Arnold, Esq.	1738 Joseph Clay, of Lambley, Esq.
1704 Borlace Warren, of Stapleford, Esq.	1739 John Gilbert Cooper, of Thurgarton, Esq.
1705 Patricius Chaworth, of Annesley, Esq.	1740 Thomas Langford, of Basford, Esq.
1706 Mundy Musters, of Colwick, Esq.	1741 John Story, of East Stoke, Esq.
1707 Sir George Savile, of Rufford, Bart.	1742 William Cartwright, of Marcham, Esq.
1708 William Levinz, of Burton, Esq.	1743 Lancelot Rolleston, of Watnall, Esq.
1709 Richard Edge, of Strelley, Esq.	1744 John Linley, of Skegby, Esq.
1710 John Simpson, of Babworth, Esq.	1745 Henry Donston, of Worksop, Esq.
1711 Jonathan Acklom, of Mattersey, Esq.	1746 John Thornhagh, of Shire-Oaks, Esq.
1712 Henry Sherbrooke, of Oxtou, Esq.	1747 Sir Charles Molyneux, of Teversall, Bart.
1713 Francis Lewis, of Stanford, Esq.	1748 Thomas Stowe, of Newark-upon-Trent, Esq.
1714 George Sharpe, of Barnby, Esq.*	1749 William Chaworth, of Annesley, Esq.
1715 John Collin, of Elton, Esq.	1750 William Westcomb, of Thrumpton, Esq.
1716 Julius Hutchinson, of Owtorpe, Esq.	1751 John Borlace Warren, of Stapleford, Esq.
1717 Joseph Mellish, of Blythe, Esq.	1752 Darcy Burnell, of Winkburne, Esq.
1718 Isaac Knight, of Warsop, Esq.	1753 Mundy Musters, of Colwick, Esq.
1719 Lionel Copley, of Plumtre, Esq.	1754 Jonathan Acklom, of Wiseton, Esq.
1720 William Hallows, of Cortlingstock, Esq.	1755 Sir Thomas Parkyns, of Bunny, Bart.
1721 John Sherwin, of Bramcote, Esq.	1756 Robert Sutton, of Scofton, Esq.
1722 John Grundy, of Bleasby, Esq.	1757 John Hall, of Mansfield Woodhouse, Esq.
1723 James Banks, of East Stoke, Esq.	1758 Sir George Smith, of East Stoke, Esq.
1724 John Richards, of Normanton, Esq.	1759 John Whetham, of Kirklington, Esq.
1725 George Langford, of Coulston, Esq.	1760 Ralph Edge, of Strelley, Esq.
1726 Beilby Thompson, of Bole, Esq.	1761 Samuel Gordon, of Newark-upon-Trent, Esq.
1727 Richard Brown, of Gunthorpe, Esq.	1762 John Newton, of Bulwell, Esq.
1728 Anthony Eyre, of Rampton, Esq.	1763 Daniel Gach, of Balderton, Esq.
1729 Samuel Peake, of Farndon, Esq.	1764 Charles Mellish, of Ragnall, Esq.
1730 William Shipman, of Mansfield, Esq.	1765 William Ellis, of Newark-upon-Trent, Esq.
1731 John Nevill, of Nottingham, Esq.	1766 George Brown, of Ordsall, Esq.
1732 John Neale, of Mansfield Woodhouse, Esq.	1767 Sir Gervas Clifton, of Clifton, Bart
1733 John Disney, of Flintham, Esq.	1768 John Bell, of Colston Bassett, Esq.
1734 Thomas Porter, of Arnold, Esq.	1769 Robert Foster, of Newark-upon-Trent, Esq.

\* This gentleman paid £8, for the Judges' expenses while in this town.

1770 Urban Hall, of Warsop, Esq.  
 1771 George Donston, of Worksop, Esq.  
 1772 George Neville, of Thorney, Esq.  
 1773 John Emerton Westcomb Emerton, of Thrumpton, Esq.  
 1774 Joseph Pocklington, of Carlton-on-Trent, Esq.  
 1775 Cornelius Launder, of Hickling, Esq.  
 1776 Abel Smith, the younger, of Bulcote, Esq.  
 1777 John Musters, of Colwick, Esq.  
 1778 William Bilbie, of Berry Hill, Esq.  
 1779 William Denison, of Ossington, Esq.  
 1780 Charles Vere Dashwood, of Stanford, Esq.  
 1781 Lancelot Rolleston, of Watnall, Esq.  
 1782 John Litchfield, of Mansfield, Esq.  
 1783 John Gilbert Cooper, of Thurgarton, Esq.  
 1784 Pendock Neale, of Tollerton, Esq.  
 1785 Sherbrooke Lowe, of Southwell, Esq.  
 1786 Anthony Hartshorn, of Hayton, Esq.  
 1787 Thomas Waterhouse, of Beckingham, Esq.  
 1788 Richard Stenton, of Southwell, Esq.  
 1789 John Chamberlain, of Sutton Bonington, Esq.  
 1790 George Chaworth, of Annesley, Esq.  
 1791 George De Ligne Gregory, of Lenton, Esq.  
 1792 Edward Thoroton Gould, of Mansfield Woodhouse, Esq.  
 1793 Richard Lumley Savile, of Rufford, Esq.

1794 John Simpson, of Babworth, Esq.  
 1795 Jonas Bettison, of Holme-Pierrepont, Esq.  
 1796 John Wright, of Nottingham, Esq.  
 1797 John Gally Knight, of Warsop, Esq.  
 1798 Nathaniel Stubbins, of Holme-Pierrepont, Esq.  
 1799 Samuel Bristowe, of Beesthorpe, Esq.  
 1800 William Gregory Williams, of Rempston, Esq.  
 1801 William Elliott Elliott, of Nottingham, Esq.  
 1802 Robert Lowe, of Oxtan, Esq.  
 1803 William Sherbrook, of Arnold, Esq.  
 1804 Thomas Webb Edge, of Strelley, Esq.  
 1805 Christopher Rolleston, of Watnall, Esq.  
 1806 Sir Thomas Woollaston White, of Wallingwells, Bart.  
 1807 John Longdon, of Bramcote, Esq.  
 1808 John Manners Sutton, of Kelham, Esq.  
 1809 Thomas Walker, of Berry Hill, Esq.  
 1810 John Musters Chaworth, of Annesley, Esq.  
 1811 Thomas Wright, of Norwood Park, Esq.  
 1812 Hugh Blades, of Bamby Hall, Esq.  
 1813 John Need, of Mansfield Woodhouse, Esq.  
 1814 William Fletcher Norton Norton, of Elton, Esq.  
 1815 John Smith Wright, of Wilford, Esq.  
 1816 Sir R. H. Bromley, of East Stoke, Bart.

### LORD LIEUTENANTS FOR THE COUNTY.

1549 This is the first appointment I can find upon record; in which Edward Clinton, first Earl of Lincoln, and Thomas Manners, first Earl of Rutland, were appointed joint Lord Lieutenants of the Counties of Nottingham, Lincoln, and Rutland; since which time the following noblemen have held the Lieutenancy of Nottinghamshire, from the dates annexed to their several appointments, distinct from the Lieutenancy of any other County.

1559 Henry, second Earl of Rutland.  
 1566 Edward, third Earl of Rutland.  
 1587 John, fourth Earl of Rutland.  
 1589 Gilbert Talbot, seventh Earl of Shrewsbury.  
 1616 William Cavendish, first Earl of Devonshire.  
 1625 William Cavendish, first Duke of Newcastle.  
 1676 Henry Cavendish, second Duke of Newcastle.  
 1688 William Pierrepont, fourth Earl of Kingston.  
 1690 John Holles, Earl of Clare, afterwards Duke of Newcastle.  
 1714 Thomas Pelham, Earl of Clare, afterwards Duke of Newcastle.  
 1763 Evelyn Pierrepont, second Duke of Kingston.  
 1765 Thomas Pelham, Duke of Newcastle.  
 1768 Henry Fiennes Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle.  
 1795 William Henry Cavendish Bentick, third Duke of Portland.  
 1809 John Pelham Clinton, Duke of Newcastle.

**BURGESSES AND KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE,**

WHO HAVE REPRESENTED

THE TOWN AND COUNTY OF THE TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM, AND THE COUNTY THEREOF,

*In Parliament,*

FROM THE TWENTY-THIRD OF EDWARD THE FIRST, TO THE PRESENT TIME.

When Elected.	Where Held.	BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.	KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE.
1294,	Westminster,	Johannes de Fleming, Willielmus de Hardby,	Gervasius de Clifton, Johannes de Annesley
1296,	London, - - - - -	- - - - -	Willielmus de Stanton, Willielmus de Colewyk
1297,	York, - - - - -	Johannes le Fleming, Adam de le Fleming,	Richardus de Bingham, Richardus de Furne
1299,	Lincoln, - - - - -	- - - - -	Ranulph. de Waldesby, Will. de Chaworth. Miles
1299,	London, - - - - -	- - - - -	Will. de Chaworth. Miles, Randulph de Wandsley
1299,	Westminster,	Johannes de Crophill, Gualterus de Thornton,	Randulphus de Wandsley, Will. de Chedworth
1301,	London, - - - - -	Adam Fleming, Johannes Ingram,	Philippus de Lasseys, Robertus de Eccleshall
1301,	Westminster, - - - - -	- - - - -	Johannes de Lysbers, Robertus de Eccleshall
1304,	Westminster,	John Fitzadam de Morter, Walter de Thornton,	Thomas Malet, Hugo de Hersey
1305,	Westminster,	Johannes Lambocks, Robertus Ingeham,	Robertus de Jorts, Robertus de Samby
1305,	Westminster, - - - - -	- - - - -	Robertus de Standely, Robertus Jourz
1306,	Karl. - - - - -	Johannes de Nottingham, Johannes Ingram,	Thomas Malet, Johannes de Villers
1307,	Northampton,	Johannes de Beston, Johannes de Bere,	Walterus Gousle, Petrus Pycot Milites
1308,	Westminster, - - - - -	- - - - -	Johannes de Grey, Willielmus de Chaworth
1310,	Westminster,	Willielmus Gilham, Johannes Lambok,	Walterus de Gaushill, Thomas Malet. Milites
1311,	London, - - - - -	Johannes Lambocks, Richard le Curzun,	Willielmus Farwell
1311,	Westminster,	Johannes Lambocks, Richardus de Brumby,	Thomas Malet, Hugo de Hercy. Milites
1312,	Wind. - - - - -	- - - - -	Petrus Pycot, Petrus Foun. Milites
1313,	Westminster,	Hugo Stapleford, Richardus Palmere,	Petrus Pycot, Petrus le Fow
1314,	York, - - - - -	Johannes Bryan, Robertus de Brundby,	Johannes de Charveleys, Ger. fil. Gervasii. Milites
1314,	Westminster,	Willielmus Gotham, Bartholomeus Cotgreve,	-
1315,	Lincoln, - - - - -	- - - - -	Johannes de Lysorus, Petrus Fenn
1316,	Lincoln, - - - - -	- - - - -	Laurentius de Chaworth, Hugo de Hercy
1318,	York, - - - - -	Willielmus Buck, Johannes de Palmere,	Thomas de Longevillers, Petrus Foun. Milites
1318,	York, - - - - -	- - - - -	Richardus Willoughby, Petrus Foun
1321,	York, - - - - -	Galfridus le Flemyng, Simon de Folevill,	-
1323,	Westminster, - - - - -	- - - - -	Robertus de Jortz, Richardus de Willoughby
1324,	London, - - - - -	- - - - -	Reginald de Aslacton, Robertus de Jortz
1325,	Westminster,	Robertus de Brunuby, Alanus Cardoun,	Johannes Bary, Robertus Ingram
1326,	York, - - - - -	Richardus Curzin, Johannes de Cupper,	Randulphus de Burton, Petrus Foun. Milites
1326,	Lincoln, - - - - -	Johannes Bally, Johannes Widmerpoole,	Petrus Foun, Robertus Ingram. Milites
1326,	Westminster, - - - - -	- - - - -	Johannes de Annesley, Willielmus de Gotham
1327,	N. Sar. - - - - -	Nicholas Shelford, Willielmus de Shelford,	Philippus de Calfetost, Petrus Foun
1327,	York, - - - - -	- - - - -	Henricus de Facombery, Robertus Ingram
1327,	Northampton,	Johannes Peruwyke, Petrus Briffield,	Robertus Ingram, Petrus Fen. de Markham
1329,	Westminster,	Lawrentius Spicer, Robertus Moorwood,	Robertus Jorte, Johannes Byks. Milites
1329,	Winchester,	Johannes Fleming, Alanus Cardon,	Petrus Foun
1329,	Westminster, - - - - -	- - - - -	Paganus de Villers, Petrus Foun



When Elected.	Where Held.	BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.	KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE.
1330,	Nottingham*,	- - - - -	Johannes de Monteny, Willielmus de Eland
1331,	Westminster,	Willielmus Gotham, Robertus Moorwood,	Johannes Byks, Rogerus de Verdon
1331,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Johannes Ingram, Johannes de Oxen
1331,	York,	- - - - -	Johannes le Brett, Richardus de Strelley
1332,	Westminster,	Johannes de Widmerpoole, Johannes Fleming,	Willielmus de Eland, Thomas de Rade. Milites
1333,	Westminster,	Robertus Moorwood, Johannes de Crophill,	Richardus de Strelley, Johannes de Oxen
1333,	York,	- - Johannes Widmerpoole, Johannes Fleming,	Willielmus de Eland, Thomas de Radcliff
1334,	Westminster,	Johannes de Feriby, Willielmus de Thorpe,	Johannes de Brett, Richardus de Strelley
1334,	York,	- - Johannes de Feriby, Richardus de Curzin,	-
1335,	Westminster,	Johannes de Feriby, Willielmus de Thorpe,	Johannes de Oxenford, Richardus de Strelley
1335,	Nottingham*,	- - - - -	Thomas de Bekering, Richardus de Strelley
1336,	Westminster,	Willielmus de Gotham, Rad. le Taverner,	Willielmus de Eland, Richardus de Strelley
1336,	Westminster,	Rogerus Bothayle, Willielmus de Colston,	Johannes de Oxenford, Richardus de Strelley
1336,	Westminster,	Willielmus de Gotham, Robertus Moorwood,	Willielmus de Eland, Richardus de Strelley
1337,	York,	- - Nicholaus Ingram, Simon Foleville,	-
1337,	Westminster,	Rogerus de Bothayle, Willielmus de Colston,	Willielmus de Eland, Johannes de Oxenford
1337,	Nottingham*,	Johannes de Feriby, Rad. le Taverner,	Richardus de Willoughby, Petrus Foun
1338,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Johannes de Vaus, Willielmus de Gotham
1338,	Westminster,	Johannes Colier, Willielmus de Roderham,	Egidus de Meignill, Rogerus de Eginton
1339,	Westminster,	Robertus Moorwood, Willielmus de Roderham,	Johannes Darcy, Johannes Deyncourt
1339,	Westminster,	Galfridus Fleming, Willielmus Tovy	Robertus Jort, Thomas de Asheburne
1339,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Johannes Barry, Robertus Jorce
1340,	Westminster,	Willielmus de Loderham, Simon Wodeburgh,	Galfridus de Stauntyn, Johannes de Vaus
1342,	Westminster,	Robertus Ingram, Richardus Newthorp,	Robertus Jorte, Richardus de Willoughby
1343,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Reginald de Aslaeton, Robertus le Jortz
1345,	Westminster,	Rad. Taverner, Richardus le Taverner,	Thomas Newmarsh, Johannes Kinton
1346,	Westminster,	Rad. Taverner, Hugo le de. Speuser,	Johannes de Vaus, Gervasius de Clifton
1347,	Westminster,	Rad. le Taverner, J. de Widmerpoole	Willielmus Trussbut, Nicholas Bernack
1347,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Johannes de Vaus, Gervasius de Clifton
1349,	Westminster,	Hugo le Spicer, Johannes de Brigford,	Thomas de Bykering, Johannes de Wadesworth
1350,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Thomas de Bykering, Johannes de Wadesworth
1351,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Willielmus de Wakebrigg, Willielmus del Ken
1351,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Richardus de Grey. Miles
1352,	Westminster,	Willielmus Findern, Thomas Moorwood,	Richardus de Grey. Miles
1353,	Westminster,	Robertus Burnby, Thomas Moorwood,	Richardus Grey de Landeford, Will. de Wakebrugg
1354,	Westminster,	Thomas Moorwood, Johannes Ingram,	Richardus de Bingham, Rogerus de Hopewell
1356,	Westminster,	Roger Hoppewell, seo. Roger Hoppewell, jun.	Richardus de Grey, Johannes Bozoun
1356,	Westminster,	Thomas de Moorwood, Johannes Ingram,	-
1357,	-	- - - - -	Rich. de Grey de Landeford, Johannes Bozoun
1358,	Westminster,	- - - - -	Thomas Malett, Hugo de Herty
1359,	-	- Johannes Ingram, Robertus Burnby,	Richardus de Grey, Willielmus Wakebrugg

\* The three marks attached to Nottingham, are to correct the like number of errors fallen into by Pryor, and followed by Deering; the two former are said by them to be held at Westminster, and the latter at Northampton. Deering says, all historians agree, that a parliament was held at Nottingham, in 1330; therefore the error of placing it at Westminster has arisen, I suppose, from his placing the 5th of Edward the IIIrd. in 1329; which I have corrected according to the *pocket peerage*.

When Elected.	Where Held.	BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.	KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE.
1359,	Westminster,	Roger Hoppewell, jun. Willielmus de Findero,	Richardus de Grey, Willielmus Wakebrugg
1359,	Westminster,	Willielmus Soliere, Thomas Moorwood,	- Richardus de Grey, Robert de Marton
1361,	Westminster,	Willielmus de Waggburg, Thomas Moorwood,	Simon de Leek, Willielmus de Wakebrugg
1362,	Westminster,	Rogerus de Hoppewell, Henry Ward, -	- Richardus de Bingham, Thomas de Nevil
1363,	Westminster,	Hugo Spicer, Willielmus Prior, - -	- Simon de Leek, Robertus de Marton
1364,	Westminster,	Hugo Spicer, Rogerus Hoppewell, -	- Simon de Leek, Robertus Marton
1365,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Simon de Leek, Robertus de Marton
1367,	Westminster,	Hugo Spieer, Henricus Chamberlain, -	- Simon de Leek, Sampson de Strelley
1368,	Westminster,	Thomas de Marewode, Petrus Mason, -	- Robertus de Marton, Willielmus de Strelley
1370,	Westminster,	Rogerus de Holm, Henricus Bradmere,	- Rogerus Beler, Robertus de Marton
1370,	Westminster,	Rogerus de Holm, - - - -	- Rogerus Beler
1371,	Westminster,	Johannes Cropshull, Johannes Bond, -	- Simon de Leek, Richardus de Grey
1372,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Simon de Leek, Johannes de Gateford
1375,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- S. de Leek. Chivaler, Johannes de Birton
1375,	- - -	Robertus German, Willielmus Copper,	- Johannes Annesley, Johannes de Beckyngham
1376,	Westminster,	Robertus Germain, Willielmus Capper,	- Johannes Annesley, Johannes Beckyngham
1377,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- S. de Leek. Chivaler, Johannes Annesley
1378,	Gloucester,	- - - - -	- J. de Annesley. Miles. W. de Nevil. Miles
1378,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- J. de Annesley. Miles. J. de Beckyngham
1378,	Westminster,	Robertus Germaine, Thomas de Bothale,	- Johannes de Annesley, Johannes Parker
1379,	Westminster,	Henricus Cook, Robertus Germaine, -	- Sampson de Strelley, R. de Marton
1380,	Northampton,	- - - - -	- Johannes de Gaytford, Robertus Basely
1381,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Thomas de Rempston. Miles. Simon de Leek
1381,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Sampson de Strelley, Thos. de Rempston. Miles
1382,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Simon de Leek. Miles. Johannes de Burton
1382,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Sampson de Strelley. Miles. Johannes de Burton
1383,	N. Sar.	Thomas Bothale, Johannes de Tammesley,	- Bert. de Bolybrook, Thomas de Annesly
1383,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Robertus de Basely, Thomas de Annesly
1384,	Westminster,	Richardus Milford, Robertus Germain -	- Johannes de Annesley, Richardus de Bevercote
1385,	Westminster,	Johannes Crawshawe, Willielmus Hunston,	- Johannes de Annesley. Miles. Johannes de Birton
1386,	Westminster,	Willielmus Bottiler, Robertus de Henden,	- Johannes de Annesley, Johannes de Leek. Milites
1387,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Johannes de Leek. Milites. Johannes de Annesley
1388,	Cambridge,	Thomas Meverley, Willielmus Bottiler -	- Johannes de Annesley, Robertus de Cokfield. M.
1389,	Westminster,	Willielmus Bottiler, Robertus Gerney,	- Johannes de Leek, Johannes de Gaytford. M.
1390,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Johannes de Burton, Hugo Cressy
1391,	Westminster,	Thomas Mapperley, Willielmus Bottiler,	- Robertus Cokfield. M. Thomas Hercy
1392,	Westminster,	Willielmus Bottiler, Nicholas Allestre,	- Thos. de Rempstone. M. Johannes Gaytford. M.
1393,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Willielmus Nevil. Miles. Nicholas de Strelley
1394,	Westminster,	Robertus Germaine, Thomas Mapperley,	- Thomas de Rempston. Miles. Nicholas Burden
1396,	Westminster,	Robertus Germaine, Thomas Mapperley,	- Thomas de Rempston. Miles. Hugo Cressy
1397,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Thomas de Rempston. Miles. Robertus de Marton
1399,	Westminster,	Johannes de Plumptre, Johannes Tauntsley,	- Johannes Gaytford, Willielmus de Leek
1400,	- - -	- - - - -	- Johannes de Burton. Miles. Johannes Knyveton
1402,	Winchester,	- - - - -	- Richard Stanhop. Miles. Johannes Clifton. Miles.
1403,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Richard Stanhop. Miles. Simon de Leek
1406,	Westminster,	Walterus Stacey, Thomas Fox, - -	- Thomas Chaworth. Miles. Rich. Stanhope. Miles

When Elected.	Where Held.	BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.	KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE.
1407,	Gloucester,	Johannes Rothell, Johannes Jorne, -	- Johannes Zouch. Miles. Hugo Hussey. Miles
1410,	Westminster,	Thomas Mapperley, Johannes Hoddings,	- Willielmus Reginaydon, Thomas de Staunton
1412,	Westminster,	Johannes Tannesley, Thomas Mapperley,	- Robertus Plimpton, Henricus de Sutton
1412,	Westminster,	Robertus Glade, Johannes Tannesley, Ald.	- Johannes Zouch. Miles. Thos. Rempston. Miles.
1413,	Leicester, -	- - - - -	- Robertus Plimpton. Miles. Henry de Sutton
1413,	Westminster,	Henricus Preston, Walterus Stacey	Hugo Husye, Radulphus Makerell
1414,	Westminster,	Johannes Allestre, Johannes Bingham, -	- Thos. de Rempston. Miles. Will. de Crompton
1416,	Westminster,	Henricus Preston, Willielmus Burton,	- Thomas Chaworth, Henry Pierpoint
1418,	Gloucester,	Willielmus Stacey, Thomas Fox	
1419,	Westminster,	Thomas Page, Johannes Bingham -	- Johannes Zouch, Hugo Husye
1419,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Thomas Chaworth, Radulphus Makerell
1420,	Westminster,	Thomas Page, Richardus Samon -	- Richardus Stanhop, Henricus Pierpoint
1422,	Westminster,	Thomas Page, Johannes Allestre, Alderman	- Johannes Zouch, Richardus Stanhop
1423,	Westminster,	Johannes Wilford, Thomas Page -	- Thomas Chaworth, Henricus Pierpoint
1424,	Westminster,	Johannes Allestre, Johannes Wilford -	- Henricus Pierpoint, Willielmus Merings
1425,	Westminster,	Willielmus Burton, Willielmus Bradmere,	- Gervasius de Clyfton, Norman Babyngton
1427,	Leicester, -	Thomas Pogg, Alderman, Johannes Manchester,	Hugo Willoughby, Radulphus Makerell
1428,	Westminster,	Johannes Manchester, Johannes Etewell, -	- Richardus Stanhop. M. Johannes Berweys
1429,	Westminster,	Johannes Manchester, Johannes Etewell, -	- Richardus Stanhop, Miles. Johannes Bowys
1430,	Westminster,	Johannes Plumptre, Ald. Johannes Manchester,	Richardus Stanhop. Miles. Norman Babyngton
1432,	Westminster,	Willielmus Halifax, Ald. Galfridus Kenton,	
1434,	Westminster,	Johannes Manchester, Robertus Resyn -	- Richardus Willoughby, Johannes Gower
1436,	Cambridge,	Johannes Plumptre, Ald. Will. Halifax, Ald.	Thomas Chaworth, Willielmus Plympton
1441,	Westminster,	Thomas Allestre, Ald. Thomas Thurland, Ald.	Johannes Zouch, Willielmus Merings
1446,	Cambridge,	- - - - -	- Nicholas Fitzwilliam, Richard Illingworth
1446,	Westminster,	Thomas Babyngton, Robertus Resyn -	-
1448,	Westminster,	Thomas Thurland, Ald. Thomas Allestre, Ald.	Johannes Roos. Armig. Richard Estlyngworth
1449,	Westminster,	Thomas Thurland, Ald. Thomas Allestre, Ald.	Johannes Stanhop. Miles. Henry Bosom. Miles
1450,	Westminster,	Thomas Thurland, Ald. Thomas Babington	Johannes Wastnesse, Richardus Illingworth
1452,	Reading, -	Richardus Delwood, Johannes Squyer -	- Robertus Clifton, Johannes Stanhop
1454,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Richardus Illingworth, Johannes Watnesse
1459,	Coventry,	- - - - -	- Robertus Strelley. Miles. Johannes Stanhop. Ar.
1459,	Westminster,	Robertus Stable, Johannes Serjeant -	-
1460,	Westminster,	- - - - -	- Robertus Strelley. Miles. Johannes Stanhop
1466,	-	<i>Elected, but lost</i> - - - -	- <i>Elected, but lost</i>
1471,	Westminster,	Thomas Nevill, Johannes Hunt -	- Henricus Pierpoint, Johannes Stanhop.

Here ends Pryne's list, to which, with a few slight alterations, I have adhered.

1476, Westminster, John Mapully, John Clerk, - - - John Byron, Esq. William Meryng, Esq.

The writs, indentures, and returns from this time to the first of Edward the Sixth, are all *lost*, except an imperfect bundle of the 23d of Henry the Eighth, which wants for the county, but those for the town are,

Robert Lovat  
Richard Hasylygg

From this time the parliaments always held their sittings at Westminster, with the exception of three being held at Oxford; the first by Mary, in 1554, and the second by Charles the First, in 1643, and the third by Charles the Second, in 1680; therefore it is of no use to continue the column of places, *where held*.

## BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.

1546,	John Pastell, Nicholas Powtrell	-
1551,	Robert Hasilgge, Francis Colman	-
1553,	Humphrey Quarndby, Thomas Markham	-
1554,	Humphrey Quarndby, Francis Colman	-
1555,	Nicholas Powtrell, Esq. William Markham	-
1556,	Hugh Thornhill, Esq. J. Bateman, Gent.	-
1558,	Francis Colman, Gent. Edward Brown, Gent.	-
1558,	<i>Elected but lost</i>	- - -
1562,	Humphrey Quarndby, Gent. J. Bateman, Gent.	-
1570,	Ralph Barton, Gent. William Balle, Gent.	-
1571,	Thomas Manours, Knt. John Bateman, Gent.	-
1584,	Richard Parkyns, Esq. R. Bateman, Gent.	-
1585,	Robert Constable, Knt. Richard Parkyns, Esq.	-
1588,	George Mannors, Esq. Richard Parkyns, Esq.	-
1592,	Humphrey Booner, Gent. Richard Parkyns, Esq.	-
1596,	Humphrey Bonner, Ald. Anker Jackson, Ald.	-
1600,	William Gregory, Gent. William Grayes, Gent.	-
1602,	Richard Hart, Alderman, Anker Jackson, Ald.	-
1613,	<i>Elected, but lost</i>	- - -
1619,	Michael Purefoy, Esq. John Lascells, Esq.	-
1622,	J. Bryan, Esq. Francis Pierpoint, Esq.	-
1625,	Robert Greaves, Gent. J. Martin, Gent.	-
1625,	Gerv. Clifton, Knt. and Bart. J. Byran, Esq.	-
1627,	Charles Cavendish, Knt. Henry Pierpoint, Esq.	-
1639,	Chs. Cavendish, Esq. Gil. Boun, Serjeant-at-Law	-
1640,	Gilbert Millington, Esq. Francis Pierpoint, Esq.	-
1646*,	Gilbert Millington, Esq. William Stanhop, Esq.	-
1653*,	<i>None elected</i>	- - -
	James Chadwick, Esq. John Mason, Esq.	-
1654*,	- - - - -	-
1656*,	Col. James Chadwick, William Drury, Ald.	-
	- - - - -	-
1659*,	John Whalley, Esq. John Parker, Ald.	-

## KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE,

-	Michael Stanhope, Knt. John Markham, Knt.
-	<i>Elected, but lost</i>
-	John Hercy, Knt. John Hollis, Knt.
-	John Constable, Knt. Elizeus Markham, Esq.
-	Richard Whalley, Esq. Elizeus Markham, Esq.
-	Richard Whalley, Esq. Anthony Foster, Esq.
-	John Markham, Knt. Hugh Thorohill, Esq.
-	<i>Elected, but lost</i>
-	John Manners, Esq. John Mollineux, Esq.
-	Robert Markham, Esq. Edward Stanhop, Esq.
-	Henry Pierpoint, Esq. Edward Stanhop, Esq.
-	Thomas Manners, Knt. Robert Constable, Knt.
-	Thomas Manners, Knt. Thomas Stanhop, Knt.
-	Robert Markham, Esq. Brian Lascells, Esq.
-	Charles Cavendish, Esq. Philip Strelley, Esq.
-	<i>Elected, but lost</i>
-	Charles Cavendish, Knt. Robert Pierpoint, Esq.
-	John Hollis, Knt. Percival Willoughby, Knt.
-	<i>Elected, but lost</i>
-	Gervase Clifton, Knt. George Chaworth, Knt.
-	Gervase Clifton, Knt. and Bart. Robert Sutton, Esq.
-	Gervase Clifton, Knt. and Bart. Henry Stanhop, Esq.
-	Henry Stanhope, Esq. Thomas Hutchinson, Knt.
-	Gervase Clifton, Knt. and Bart. John Byran, Knt.
-	Thomas Hutchinson, Esq. Robert Sutton, Esq.
-	Thomas Hutchinson, Knt. Robert Sutton, Esq.
-	John Hutchinson, Esq. + Gervase Pigott, Esq.
-	John Odingsells, Esq. Edward Cludd, Esq.
-	William Pierpoint, Esq. Edward Whalley, Esq. Edward
-	Neville, Esq. Charles White, Esq.
-	Edward Neville, Esq. Edward Cludd, Esq. Edward
-	Whalley, Esq. Peniston Whalley, Esq.
-	Edward Neville Esq. Thomas Bristow, Esq.

All the returns marked thus \*, I have been enabled to add to the lists of representatives hitherto published: Deering acknowledges he could not obtain them, and Throsby, I presume, never attempted. The first parliament which Charles summoned in 1640, met on the 13th of April;

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† Mrs. Hutchinson informs us, that her husband was strongly solicited to serve for the town, but Mr. Francis Pierpoint intreated him to stand for the county, and use his influence for him in the town; which he did, notwithstanding the many unkind returns he had received from that gentleman.

and the second, which proved so fatal to him, on the 3d of November. The four succeeding ones, as well as that which was summoned to meet on the 25th of April, 1660, called the *Restoring Parliament*, were called during the *Interregnum*. Deering informs us, that he could not find the names of either our town or county members, belonging to that parliament which Charles summoned to meet at Oxford in 1643; nor was he likely, since there were no elections on the occasion. Charles merely, after the battle at Edghill in Warwickshire, summoned that parliament to meet him at Oxford which had been elected in 1640; but, besides those of the blood royal, there were only 42 lords and 117 commoners attended to his call. To the honor of Nottingham, however, its members continued at Westminster, firmly attached to the people's liberties.

The *Barebones*, or *Little Parliament* summoned in 1653, was so called, from a conspicuous character of that day, of the name of *Praise God Barebone*, and from the paucity of its numbers, it consisting only of 144 members; and not as Deering has it, of 139. Our author conjectures, that Edward Cludd, Esq. of Southwell,\* was returned by the town of Nottingham to this parliament; but, as may be seen by looking at the list, he is mistaken. He is likewise wrong in stating Gervase Pigott, Esq. to be a member of this parliament; that gentleman was never returned after the year 1646. But to set the matter at rest respecting Mr. Cludd's being returned for the town in 1653, we have only to analyze that parliament and we shall find, there was not one borough member in the house. The members stood as follows:—

County Members	-	-	-	-	-	115
London	-	-	-	-	-	7
Scotch	-	-	-	-	-	5
Irish	-	-	-	-	-	6
Welch	-	-	-	-	-	6
Field Officers	-	-	-	-	-	5
						144

## BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.

## KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE.

1660, John Hutchinson, Esq.	Robert Pierpoint, Esq.†	William Pierpoint, Esq.	Gilbert Lord Houghton
Arthur Stanhope, Esq.	-	-	-
1661, Robert Pierpoint, Esq.	Arthur Stanhope, Esq.	Sir John Clifton, Knt.	John Eyre, Esq.
-	-	Sir Scroop Howe, Knt.	Sir Francis Leek, Knt. and Bart.
1678, Robert Pierpoint, Esq.	Richard Slater, Esq.	Sir Scroop Howe, Knt.	John White, Esq.
1679, Robert Pierpoint, Esq.	Richard Slater, Esq.	Sir Scroop Howe, Knt.	John White, Esq.
1680-1 Robert Pierpoint, Esq.	Richard Slater, Esq.	Sir Scroop Howe, Knt.	John White, Esq.

\* Mr. Cludd resided at Norwood Park, near Southwell, and during the interregnum, he acted as a civil magistrate; and, according to the custom of the commonwealth, he had to perform the ceremony of uniting those persons at the hymeneal altar, that chose to enter into the married state; such union being then considered purely as a civil contract. This ceremony, we are informed by tradition in that neighbourhood, he used to perform under the umbrageous shelter of an oak tree, not far from his house, around which benches were erected for the convenience of the parties; which tree is preserved by the Suttons, the present owners of the estate, with a religious veneration, it being capped with lead and otherwise taken care of; and is to this day called *Cludd's Oak*. When the author of this work visited this altar of hymeneal devotion in the summer of 1813, the happiness of its former youthful visitants danced in his imagination, and he put up a silent prayer for its preservation.

† Colonel Hutchinson and Mr. Stanhope were elected for the town in 1660, to serve in that parliament which met on the 25th of April; but in June following the Colonel, and every other member that had signed the king's death-warrant were expunged, and Mr. Pierpoint was elected in his stead.

## BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.

## KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE,

1685, John Beaumont, Esq. Sir William Stanhope, Knt.	Sir William Clifton, Bart. Reason Mellish, Esq.
1689-90 Hon. Fra. Pierepoint, Ed. Bigland, serj.-at-law	John White, Esq. John Lord Houghton, <i>created a Peer and succeeded by Sir Scroop Howe, Knt.</i>
1690, Charles Hutchinson, Esq. Richard Slater, Esq.	Sir Scroop Howe, Knt. William Sacheverel, Esq. <i>died,</i>
1695, Richard Slater, Esq. Charles Hutchinson, Esq. <i>died,</i> William Pierepoint, Esq.	John White, Esq.
1698, William Pierepoint, Esq. Richard Slater, Esq. <i>died,</i> Robert Sacheverel, Esq.	Sir Scroop Howe, Knt. John White, Esq.
1700, William Pierepoint, Esq. Robt. Sacheverel, Esq.	Sir Thomas Willoughby, Bart. Gervase Eyre, Esq.
1701, William Pierepoint, Esq. Robt. Sacheverel, Esq.	Sir Thomas Willoughby, Bart. Sir F. Mollineux, Bart.
1702, William Pierepoint, Esq. George Gregory, Esq.	Sir F. Mollineux, Bart. Gervase Eyre, Esq. <i>died,</i> John Thornhagh, Esq.
1705, Robt. Sacheverel, Esq. Wm. Pierpoint, Esq. <i>died</i> John Plumptre, Esq.	Sir Thomas Willoughby, Bart. John Thornhagh, Esq.
1708, John Plumptre, Esq. Robt. Sherwin, Esq.	Sir Francis Willoughby, Bart. John Thornhagh, Esq.
1710, John Plumptre, Esq. Robert Sacheverel, Esq.	R. H. Scroop Visc. Howe, William Levinz, Esq.
1713, Robert Sacheverel, Esq. Borlace Warren, Esq.	The Hon. Francis Willoughby, William Levinz, Esq.
1714-15, John Plumptre, Esq. George Gregory, Esq.	The Hon. Francis Willoughby, William Levinz, Esq.
1722, John Plumptre, Esq. George Gregory, Esq.	R. H. Scroop Visc. Howe, Sir Robert Sutton, K. B.
1727, Borlace Warren, Esq. Hon. John Stanhope	William Levinz, Esq. R. H. Scroop Visc. Howe, <i>office,</i> Thomas Bennett, Esq.
1734, John Plumptre, Esq. Borlace Warren, Esq.	The Hon. John Mordaunt, Thomas Bennet, Esq. <i>died,</i> William Levinz, Esq. junior
1741, John Plumptre, Esq. Borlace Warren, Esq. <i>died,</i> Sir Charles Sedley, Bart.	The Hon. John Mordaunt, William Levinz, Esq.
1747, R. H. Geo. Visc. Howe, Sir Chas. Sedley, Bart.*	R. H. Lord Robert Sutton, John Thornhagh, Esq.
1754, R. H. Geo. Visc. Howe, Sir Willoughby Aston, Bart. <i>Lord Howe dying in 1758,</i> The Hon. Col. William Howe	R. H. Lord Robert Sutton, John Thornhagh, Esq.
1761, The Hon. Col. Wm. Howe, John Plumptre, Esq.	R. H. Lord Robert Sutton, John Thornhagh, Esq. <i>my Lord dying in 1762,</i> The Hon. Thos. Willoughby
1768, The Hon. Col. Wm. Howe, John Plumptre, Esq.	John Thornhagh, Esq. The Hon. Thomas Willoughby
1774, The Hon. Gen. Howe, Sir Charles Sedley, Bart. <i>Sir Charles dying in 1778,</i> Abel Smith, Esq. <i>jun. was elected; but he dying in 1779, his brother Robert Smith, Esq.</i>	Henry Earl of Lincoln, The Hon. Thomas Willoughby, <i>who succeeded to the title of Lord Middleton in the same year; Lord Ed. Bentinck was elected in 1775, and the Earl of Lincoln dying in France in 1778,</i> The Hon. Charles Meadows
1780, Robert Smith, Esq. Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.	Lord Edward Bentinck, The Hon. Charles Meadows
1784, Robert Smith, Esq. Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.	Lord Edward Bentinck, The Hon. Charles Meadows
1790, Robert Smith, Esq. Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.	Lord Edward Bentinck, The Hon. Charles Meadows
1796, Dan. Parker Coke, Esq. Robt. Smith, Esq. <i>created a Peer in 1797,</i> Sir John Borlase Warren, K. B.	The Hon. Evelyn Pierepoint Lord W. C. Bentinck, <i>Mr. Pierepoint died in 1801,</i> Hon. C. H. Pierepoint

\* A violent contest took place at this election between John Plumptre, Esq. supported by the whigs, and Sir Charles Sedley, supported by the tories the latter party succeeding, for the first time from the year 1715; in consequence of which, Sir Charles gave his partisans the finest fir in his park at Nuthall, which they erected as a Maypole, where now the pump stands in Parliament-street, between Clumber-street and Milton-street. It was ordered down by the late Mr. Thomas Wyer when he was over-seer of the highway in 1789.

BURGESSES OF THE TOWN.

KNIGHTS OF THE SHIRE.

1802, Sir John Borlase Warren, Joseph Birch, Esq.	Hon. C. H. Pierepoint, Lord W. C. Bentinck, <i>who</i>
<i>whose return was declared void in 1803,</i>	<i>vacated in 1803, Anthony Hardolph Eyre, Esq.</i>
Daniel Parker Coke, Esq. - - - - -	- - - - -
1806, Daniel Parker Coke, Esq. John Smith, Esq. -	Anthony H. Eyre, Esq. Hon. C. H. Pierepoint. <i>Lord</i>
- - - - -	<i>Newark by courtesy</i>
1807, Daniel Parker Coke, Esq. John Smith, Esq. -	Anthony H. Eyre, Esq. Lord Newark
1812 John Smith, Esq. Rt. Hon. Lord Rancliffe -	Rt. Hon. Lord Newark, Lord W. C. Bentinck, <i>who vacated</i>
- - - - -	<i>in 1814, and was succeeded by Frank Frank, Esq.*</i>

# **ELECTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, FOR THE TOWN.**

The following table shews the number of electors that polled at the different stated periods ; and though it does not embrace every election from the year 1713, yet it will satisfy the reader's curiosity, as to the number of electors.

	No Polled.
1710, John Plumptre, Esq. - - - - -	728
Robert Sacheverel, Esq. - - - - -	703
Robie Sherwin, Esq. - - - - -	675
Borlase Warren, Esq. - - - - -	574
Total - - - - -	2680

	No. Polled.	Only Votes.
1722, John Plumptre, Esq. - - - - -	866	1
George Gregory, Esq. - - - - -	808	7
Borlase Warren, Esq. - - - - -	756	566
Total - - - - -	2430	574

Total number of Electors that polled 1502

	No. Polled.
1754, Lord Howe - - - - -	980
Sir Willoughby Aston - - - - -	924
John Plumptre, Esq. - - - - -	915
Total - - - - -	2819

Number of Freeholders that polled 145. Total number of Burgesses then in existence 1757.

\* In a parliament summoned by King Edward the First, June the 28th, 1283, to meet at Shrewsbury the 30th September, the same year, to which besides the great barons called by a particular writ addressed to each of them, and two representatives elected for each of the shires, there were called two members for each of the following cities and towns. The writs were directed to the Mayor Citizens and Sheriffs of London—Mayor and Citizen<sup>s</sup> of Winchester—Mayor and Bailiffs of Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Mayor and Citizens of York—Mayor and Bailiffs of Bristol—Mayor and Citizens of Exeter—Mayor and Citizens of Lincoln—Mayor and Citizens of Canterbury—Mayor and Citizens of Carlisle—Bailiffs of Norwich—Mayor and Goodmen of Northampton—Bailiffs of Nottingham—Bailiffs of Scarborough—Mayor and Bailiffs of Grimsby—Mayor and Bailiffs of Lyon—Bailiffs of Colchester—Bailiffs and Goodmen of Yarmouth—Mayor and Goodmen of Hereford—Mayor and Goodmen of Chester—Bailiffs and Goodmen of Shrewsbury—Mayor and Goodmen of Worcester — *See Fædera, Vol. 2, 247, 249.*

A parliament something similar to this had been summoned in 1264, but the towns sending members are not recorded ; but that two members were sent from several of the principal cities and towns is certain, as well as the representatives of each county.—*Ibid, Vol. 1, 802.*

N. B. The above were then the principal cities and towns in the kingdom.

Plumptre had long been the favorite of the whigs, but he having accepted an office under government, they were highly offended at his conduct ; depending, however, upon his influence, he not only thought of stepping into the seat, but of bringing in Sir Willoughby Aston likewise ; this the whigs could not bear, therefore, they made sure of their own champion, and split as many of their votes in favor of Sir Willoughby Aston as placed him second on the list ; thus Mr. Plumptre was lost in a fog of his own raising. The number of only votes which polled on this occasion were—

For Howe	-	-	-	-	-	-	901
For Plumptre	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
For Aston	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

Total - - - 930

Total number of Electors that polled 1858

						No. Polled.	Only Votes.
1774, Sir Charles Sedley, Bar.	-	-	-	-	-	1114	308
Honorable Colonel W. Howe	-	-	-	-	-	971	502
Lord Edward Bentinck	-	-	-	-	-	911	234
Total	-	-	-	-	-	2996	1044

Total number of Electors that polled 2013

						No. Polled.	Only Votes.
1780, Robert Smith, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	569	96
Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	342	8
Major John Cartwright	-	-	-	-	-	149	10
Total	-	-	-	-	-	1060	114

						No. Polled.	Only Votes.
1790, Robert Smith, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	-	443
Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	-	415
Captain Johnson	-	-	-	-	-	-	237
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	1095

Captain Johnson suffered himself to be put up by the Tory, or *White Lion Club*, so called from its being held at that Inn, for the purpose of running Mr. Smith to expense, without any hope of ultimate success.

		No. Polled.	Only Votes.	Town Votes,	Country Votes.
1796, Robert Smith, Esq.	-	1210	282	1926	184
Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.	-	1069	82	655	114
Peter Crompton, Esq.	-	561	364	528	33
		2840	728	2509	331

This contention arose out of the political events of the day, which then split the country into factions ; whig and tory both changing sides, according as they were influenced by the love of freedom, or by the fear (falsely grounded) of losing their property ; the French revolution was an object of admiration to one part of the people, and of terror to the other. Mr. Smith having been induced (as was generally believed) by his private friendship with Mr. Pitt, to join the war



party, many of his old friends determined to oppose him ; and Dr. Crompton was prevailed upon to be the instrument in their hands. Many of the electors, who polled on this occasion, made sacrifices which will ever endear their conduct to the lovers of independence. It was not Mr. Smith, properly speaking, that they opposed, but the war ; and time has proved, that if the nation in general had followed their notion of things, we should now have been a happy people.

						No. Polled.	Only Votes.
1802, Sir John Borlace Warren	-	-	-	-	-	987	48
Joseph Birch, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	928	591
Daniel Parker Coke, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	636	10
Total	-	-	-	-	-	2551	649

Total number of Electors that polled 1600

Mr. Coke had become an object of popular dislike, in consequence of his having given his support to the war, to which was attributed the excessive high price of provisions. It was very remarkable in this contest, that Mr. Birch was a total stranger, was then standing a contest at Liverpool, and that he did not arrive here till the 4th day of the poll. He was unseated in consequence of a petition to the House of Commons from Mr. Coke ; but the circumstances which took place in consequence of this affair, more properly belong to the political events of the town ; and the relation of them shall therefore be reserved for that place.

On Monday, the 30th of May, came on the memorable contest between Mr. Coke and Mr. Birch, and to give the account of it clearly to posterity, we will set down each day's poll.

							Coke.	Birch.
1803, First day, May 30th	-	-	-	-	-	-	109	100
Second day, May 31st	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	200
Third day, June 1st	-	-	-	-	-	-	180	90
Fourth day, June 2d	-	-	-	-	-	-	218	202
Fifth day, June 3d	-	-	-	-	-	-	153	269
Sixth day, June 4th	-	-	-	-	-	-	297	123
Seventh day, June 6th	-	-	-	-	-	-	360	180
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	1359	1164
Number of town burgesses	-	-	-	-	-	-	789	838
Number of county burgesses	-	-	-	-	-	-	301	248
Number of freeholders in the town	-	-	-	-	-	-	135	67
Number of freeholders in the county	-	-	-	-	-	-	134	11
Total number of burgesses that polled for each	-	-	-	-	-	-	1090	1086
Total number of freeholders that polled for each	-	-	-	-	-	-	269	78
Total number of freeholders that polled on this occasion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	347
Total number of burgesses that polled on this occasion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2176
Grand total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2523

The next contest was carried on between the friends of Mr. Birch on the one part, and those of Mr. Coke and Mr. John Smith on the other, with an ardour scarcely ever exceeded in the history of electioneering ; the two latter gentlemen having joined interests, though of opposite political

opinions ; Mr. Smith being a whig of strict constitutional principles ; but, though a native of the town, he had resided very little in it, and his politics were as little known ; many of the whigs therefore split their votes in favor of Mr. Coke, and thus placed him at the *head* of the poll ; while if each candidate had stood upon his own interest and had taken the chance of split-votes, in all probability he would have been at the *tail*. Mr. Smith, however, by his manly conduct in the house, in advocating the rights of the people, soon acquired the esteem of every lover of his country.

				Coke.		Smith:		Birch.
1806, First day, October 31st -	-	-	-	44	-	35	-	84
Second day, November 1st	-	-	-	315	-	286	-	310
Third day, November 3d	-	-	-	231	-	205	-	275
Fourth day, November 4th	-	-	-	212	-	187	-	169
Fifth day, November 5th	-	-	-	283	-	219	-	290
Sixth day, November 6th	-	-	-	351	-	316	-	174
Seventh day, November 7th	-	-	-	233	-	192	-	108
Eighth day, November 8th	-	-	-	90	-	90	-	25
Ninth day, November 10th	-	-	-	14	-	13	-	8
Total	-	-	-	1773		1543		1443

	Town Votes.	Country Votes.	Army Votes,	London Votes	Only Votes.
For Coke	1193	434	81	65	20
For Smith	990	414	72	67	19
For Birch	1098	272	41	32	1190
Total number of Electors that polled 2994					

	Town Votes.	Country Votes.	Only Votes.
1807, John Smith, Esq.	1096	120	20
D. P. Coke, Esq.	826	111	71
Dr. Crompton	573	62	301
Total number polled by each	1216	937	635

On this occasion Dr. Crompton sacrificed much of that esteem he had so justly acquired in 1796, by pertinaciously persevering in a contest, contrary to the advice of his friends and the interest of the town, and without a shadow of success ; except as he might expect that success to result from the errors of some of the contending, or conducting parties. He put up on the pure principles of electioneering, that is, to take the suffrages of the electors free of any expense ; which, on the present system of representation, and, in particular in a town that has more than a thousand out-voters, is impossible to be attended with success. The poll was closed without the doctor's consent ; on which occasion he presented a petition to the House of Commons, complaining of the conduct of the sheriffs ; but the house declared it *frivolous and vexatious*.

On the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th of October, a very sharp contest was carried on between John Smith, Esq. Lord Rancliffe, and Richard Arkwright, junior, Esq. The occasion was this :—D. P. Coke, Esq. declined the honor of again being put in

nomination, and by public handbill, endeavoured to transfer the party influence which had long supported him in his political capacity, to Mr. Arkwright; but in many instances, he had mistaken *personal attachment* for *party principle*; and therefore his more intimate connections were mislead. This was clearly understood by some of his more penetrating political opponents, who thought it a fair opportunity of bringing in two members opposed to the war party, the effect of whose counsels Nottingham had so wofully felt. But how to find a proper character to oppose Mr. Arkwright was the difficulty. Lord Rancliffe had been named, but had been induced, by the advice of a few of the more timid of the whigs, to make a public declaration of his intention not to stand the contest. Mr. Birch, who had previously maintained three contests, was put in nomination, without his knowledge or consent; but this measure was considered more vexatious than prudent, and, of course, received but little support. Dr. Crompton made his appearance, and was put in nomination; but his system, though purely honest and constitutional, was not calculated to produce the wished for success; therefore he received little support; and the first day of the election passed away in this, to one party, hopeless, and to the other triumphant condition. In the evening however, about eight or ten common working men determined upon a desperate effort; and, at their own expense, sent three of their company, in a post chaise to Bunny-hall, to solicit Lord Rancliffe to permit himself to be put in nomination the next morning, and to press his personal attendance; while another of the company had previously prepared an answer to Mr. Coke's address, which was immediately printed at the company's expense. Lord Rancliffe met the application with promptitude and decision; and this determined measure of a handful of poor men roused all the latent energies of the party that were friendly to peace and parliamentary reform, many of whom had previously voted for Mr. Coke from principles of gratitude or personal attachment, he never having made party motives an object of distinction when applied to for the exercise of his influence in behalf of those persons that were in difficult or distressed circumstances. The state of the poll at the conclusion will fully explain the rest:—

	No. Polled.	Only Votes.
1812, John Smith, Esq. - - - - -	2013	35
Lord Rancliffe - - - - -	1515	170
Richard Arkwright, Esq. - - - - -	1239	576
Peter Crompton, Esq. - - - - -	8	1
Joseph Birch, Esq.* - - - - -	5	0
Total number of Electors that polled 2781		

\* Mr. Birch's name was withdrawn on Lord Rancliffe's nomination, and Dr. Crompton's the third day of the poll.

† The last contested election we have any knowledge of for the county of Nottingham was conducted on the 4th and 5th of April, 1722.—  
The candidates with their respective numbers polled were as follows:—

	No. Polled.
Sir Robert Sutton, Baronet - - - - -	1349
Scroop, Lord Viscount Howe - - - - -	1339
William Levioz, Esq. - - - - -	1265
Honorable Francis Willoughby - - - - -	1257

Total number of Freeholders that polled 2824  
The two gentlemen returned were of the whig party.

**CORPORATE CONTESTS.****SENIOR COUNCIL.**

1747, Roger Radforth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No. Polled.	577
Benjamin Bull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		475

Total number that polled 1052

Mr. Radforth was a butcher by trade; therefore it was sarcastically said, *the butcher had killed the bull.*

1780, Joseph Oldknow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No. Polled.	847	Only Votes.	191
Samuel Eaton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		801		21
Henry Green	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		770		110
George Borbage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		527		9
Total											2945		331

Number of Burgesses that polled 1639

1787, Captain John Collishaw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No. Polled.	819
Samuel Heywood, attorney-at-law	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		232
Total											1051

*This is the greatest number of electors that ever polled here in one day.*

The cause of Mr. Heywood's unpopularity was, his proposing to inclose the open fields.

1788, Samuel Green	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No. Polled.	527
Edward Chatteris	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		237
Total											764

1789, Thomas Caunt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No. Polled.	912
John Buxton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		802
Total											1714

1793, Robert Cox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No. Polled.	631	Only Votes.	520
Henry Keyworth	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		516		9
Stokeham Huthwaite	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		465		9
Total											1612		538

Total number of Electors that polled 1075

**JUNIOR COUNCIL.**

1798, Richard Hooton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No. Polled.	868
Robert Brown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		684
Total											1552

It ought to be observed here, that 111 votes were struck from Mr. Brown's number as improper.

	No. Polled.
1799, James Lee	467
John Crosland	279
Total	746
1801, Charles Twells, attorney-at-law	172
Joseph Harvey	125
Total	297
1807, Lewis Allsopp, attorney-at-law	244
James Ellis	133
Total	377

The reader will find the particulars relative to the last election in the foregoing part of this chapter; as also of the election for the reinstatement of the junior council.

	No. Polled.
1810, Martin Roe	95
Edward Stevenson	13
John Lomas Darker	4
Total	112

On the 26th of April this election was brought on; and it was one of those scenes which excite little else than laughter and contempt: Mr. Stevenson, an industrious framework-knitter, was a most convenient instrument in the hands of the populace to discharge the arrows of railery at Mr. Darker, which was his declared motive for permitting himself to be put in nomination.

During the 17th, 18th, 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, and 25th, of August a very spirited, yet most good-naturedly conducted contest was carried on between Mr. James Dale, and Mr. Richard Bonington.

	No. Polled.
1815, James Dale	1207
Richard Bonington	1174
Total	2381

### CHAMBERLAIN ELECTION.

	No. Polled.
1789, John Whitlock	26
Elihu Samuel Fellows	25
Thomas Hunt	22

On this occasion there were two contests, the first between Mr. Whitlock and Mr. Hunt, and the second between Mr. Fellows and Mr. Hunt; the same number polling for Mr. Hunt both times.

A contest for chamberlains, is a thing quite unusal, as the mayor elect has a right to chuse his own *stewards* to manage the estate of the burgesses, whose collective body he represents; consequently, when the *clothing* are permitted to control such choice, it must be the result of an act of courtesy on his part.

Were I to pass over in silence two of the contests for the office of junior counsellor, namely, Brown opposed to Hooton, and Ellis opposed to Allsopp, the reader would justly charge me with gross partiality ; it is not on this ground however, but on that of *duty*, that the following remarks are made.

Brown and Ellis were both journeymen stocking-makers, and as such were equal in point of *rank*; as far as circumstances constitute an equality; yet, how different were their pretensions! Mr. Robert Brown possessed a captivating address, with the manners of a polished gentleman, entirely free from affectation: he had been favored with a liberal English education; and his talents were of the elevated kind, without that too often accompanying, and disgusting appendage, *pedantry*. He was therefore an acceptable companion to the liberal minded rich; and, his having advocated the cause of his fellow workmen, for which he had been prosecuted and persecuted, had placed him very high in popular estimation. And, there is great reason to believe, had he been successful in the contest, that an intelligent majority of the corporation would have been glad to have seen him thus elected as a member of their body.—In him, *talent* supplied the place of *wealth*; and the civic crown would not have been sullied by the sweat of the brow that might have worn it!

But how different was the case with James Ellis! He had nothing to distinguish him from the lowly class to which nature had assigned him—among which, in Nottingham, many enlightened characters are to be found; and from which fortune had made a vain effort to exalt him—he had nothing to distinguish him, but a prodigal abruptness of manners, and a coarseness of behaviour, which had no other effect, except that of sometimes affording amusement to little minds. And, the only excuse for his presumption, in putting up for the office of junior counsellor, can alone be found in a species of *insanity*, to which the faculty has not yet given a name. Therefore, if this person had been elected, his success would have brought manifest disgrace upon those that elected him, and on that body, of whom the late Right Hon. C. J. Fox spoke so highly, and with whom, by the force of authority, he would have mixed.

The evils resulting from bodies of electors supporting persons like this, are far greater than is generally imagined; two of which we will name. First, It excites the rich to exert every possible effort to narrow down the elective-franchise of the people, which, in Nottingham, may be narrow enough in thirty years to come, by the military interference with apprenticeships, if the corporation do not adopt some corresponding remedy in the qualifications for the obtainment of the town's freedom; and secondly, that very body are brought into disrespect, that have the guardianship of the burgess's interests in their hands; and therefore those interests must be deteriorated in a corresponding degree.

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## CHAPTER X.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE NOBLEMEN THAT HAVE BEEN DIGNIFIED WITH THE TITLE OF EARL OF NOTTINGHAM, FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NORMAN POWER IN THIS COUNTRY TO THE PRESENT TIME.

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**HENRY DE FERRARIIS**, son of Walchelin de Ferriers or Ferrariis, a Norman, was made Earl of Nottingham by William the First, who gave him also Tutbury castle and other possessions in Staffordshire; and likewise large estates in the counties of Berks, Oxon, Wilts, Lincoln, Bucks, and Gloucester. This Henry founded the priory of Tutbury.

He was succeeded by *Robert*, his third son, his two elder being dead. He was one of the witnesses to the laws made by Stephen in the 1st of his reign; and, on account of the signal services he performed at the head of the Derbyshire men in the battle of Northallerton, or what is frequently called the *battle of the standard*, in 1138, Stephen presented him with the Earldom of Derby. But he died the following year, and was succeeded by his son

*Robert de Ferrers*, Earl of Ferrers and Derby. He stiled himself, according to Dugdale, *Robertus comes, Junior de Ferreriis*, and likewise comes, Junior de Nottingham, as appears by a charter of his dated 1141, by which he confirmed to the church of St. Oswald of Nostell, whatsoever Henry de Ferrers, his grandfather, Engenulph de Ferrers, his uncle, Robert, his father, or any of their wives had previously given to that church. He was also a benefactor to Tutbury in Staffordshire, the canons of Nostell and other religious institutions in Yorkshire, Leicestershire, and Cheshire. He also founded the priory of Derby, which was afterwards translated to Darley.—He died in 1165, and was succeeded by his only son

*William de Ferrers*, Earl of Ferrers and Derby. He certified, in the reign of Henry the Second, to the holding of *seventy-nine* knights' fees. He confirmed the grants of his ancestors to the monks of Tutbury; and was bountiful to the knights hospitallers. He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of William Peverel, (according to Glover's Catalogue of Honor) whose grandfather was natural son to William the First; the marriage ceremony of which couple was performed at Canterbury by the celebrated Thomas a Becket. He died in 1172, and was succeeded by his son,\*

*Robert de Ferrers*, Earl of Ferrers and Derby. He, along with the Earls of Chester, Leicester,

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\* It appears that the Peverels were not *Earls*, but *Lords* of Nottingham; for Camdeo says, "William, surnamed the Conqueror, made his natural son William Peverel, ruler of this county, not by the title of Earl, but *Lord of Nottingham*." It also appears that the property of the barony belonged to the Lords of the town, till some time after Peverel was ousted of it by Henry the Second.

Norfolk, &c. joined young Henry against his father and sovereign, who, from a thoughtless indulgence, had caused his unnatural son to be crowned in his life time. Our Earl, on this occasion, garisoned his castles of Tutbury and Duffield, and entered Nottingham, which he partly destroyed, with a hostile army, because it adhered to the interest of the old king. When fortune, as well as justice, had declared in favor of the injured monarch, Robert made his peace with him, on condition of surrendering the above named castles, which the king, very prudently, demolished. To make peace also with heaven, according to the fashion of those days, Robert founded the priory of Woodham-Ferrers in Essex ; and died in 1189.

*William de Ferrers*, his son, succeeded him in his titles of Earl of Ferrers, Nottingham, and Derby ; but was afterwards deprived of the two latter earldoms by Richard the First, who gave them to John, Earl of Morton, his brother, and afterwards king of England. Our dispossessed Earl, however, followed Richard in his wars into Palastine, and lost his life at the siege of St. John de Acre ; nor were any of his family possessed of the earldom of Nottingham from that time, whatever some writers may say to the contrary.

*John Plantagenet*, already governor of Nottingham castle, and in possession of the honor of Peverel, with the property of the barony, had the earldoms of Nottingham and Derby conferred upon him by his brother Richard ; which favors he requited by endeavouring to usurp the throne in the absence of the latter, for which the faithful Longchamp, bishop of Ely, deprived him of his honors and commands. The generous Richard, however, restored to his ungrateful brother his dignities and power, which he held till he became king himself in 1199. From this time the title of Earl of Nottingham lay dormant till it was conferred upon

*John de Moubray* in 1377, by Richard the Second on the day of his coronation. This young gentleman was honored with the title of Earl of Nottingham at twelve years of age ; nor was it long before he gave an open instance of his *manhood*, for, though he died before he had attained the age of *eighteen*, he obtained the title of Lord Maubray of Axholm, by Elizabeth Seagrave *his wife*, daughter and heiress of Margaret Brotherton, Duchess of Norfolk. At his death, Richard bestowed the title of Earl of Nottingham upon

— *Thomas Moubray*, his younger brother, who was immediately after created Duke of Norfolk.— But he did not long enjoy these distinguished honors ; for he died in February, 1381.

*Thomas Moubray*, or *Morbray*, was created Earl of Nottingham in 1382, and hereditary Marshal of England and Duke of Norfolk in 1398. He used to stile himself *Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Nottingham, Marshal of England, Lord of Moubray, Seagrave, Gower, and Brews*. This gentleman did not, however, long enjoy his estates and high dignities in peace ; for, shortly after his being created Duke of Norfolk, he was banished the realm by the king ; the occasion of which is thus related by historians :—The Duke of Hereford charged the Duke of Norfolk with having spoken words to the dishonor of the king, which he positively and indignantly denied : the affair became serious, and, according to the custom of those times, was to be decided by single combat ; the victor in such cases always being supposed innocent. But the king interposed his authority, just as the combatants were about to engage, and, by the force of his arbitrary power, he banished Hereford for ten years, and Norfolk for the term of his natural life. Hereford retired



to Paris, and his father, the Duke of Lancaster, dying shortly after, who was also uncle to the king, he assumed the title of Duke of Lancaster, and afterwards deposed the arbitrary Richard, and was crowned king of England by the name of Henry the Fourth ; and thus laid the foundation of those destructive wars between the houses of Lancaster and York. Fortune dealt otherwise with the subject of this memoir ; for he died of grief at Venice the first year of his rival's reign. His first wife, who died without issue, was Elizabeth Strange, daughter of Sir Thomas Strange, who was son and heir to Lord Strange, of Blackmore. His second wife was Elizabeth, sister and coheirress of Thomas Fitz Allen, Earl of Arundel by whom he had three daughters and two sons, the eldest of whom,

*Thomas Moubray*, enjoyed the title of Earl of Nottingham by courtesy from the time of his father's elevation to the dukedom of Norfolk. He also enjoyed the marshalship of England by inheritance. He married Constance, daughter of John Holland, Earl of Huntington and Duke of Exeter, and Elizabeth, daughter of John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster ; but left no issue ; he died in 1405, and was succeeded by his brother

*John Moubray*, who, in 1425, had the dukedom of Norfolk restored to him. He married Catharine, daughter to Ralph, Lord Nevil, the first Earl of Westmoreland ; and died in 1432.

*John Moubray*, Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Nottingham, Earl Marshal of England, Lord Moubray, Segrave, and Gower, succeeded his father. He was created Knight of the Garter by Henry the Sixth, by whom he was employed to negociate a peace with France ; and in the first of Edward the Fourth, was constituted Justice Itinerant of all the royal forests south of Trent ; but died in 1461, and was buried by the high altar in the Abbey of Thetford, in all probability in consequence of his having made two pilgrimages to Rome and one to Jerusalem, &c. His wife was Eleonora, daughter of William Bouchier, Earl Ewe in Normandy, by whom he had

*John Lord Moubray*, who, in his father's life time, was created Earl of Warren and Surrey by Henry the Sixth, came by inheritance to the titles of Duke of Norfolk, Earl of Nottingham, Earl Marshal of England, and baron Segrave and Gower. At his death, which happened in 1476, the Moubray family became extinct in the male line, he leaving no issue except an only daughter, whom Edward the Fourth married to his son

*Richard Plantagenet*, Duke of York, who inherited all the Moubray titles and estates in right of his wife. This match was made by Edward for the purpose of casting wealth and consideration into the hands of this his son, since his extreme youth, for years to come, must prevent the consummation of the marriage ; and which anticipated felicity was finally prevented, by the Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard the Third, for he murdered the young prince, along with his hapless brother, Edward the Fifth, while the latter was under thirteen years of age, for the purpose of clearing his way to the throne.

The vast inheritance of the Moubrays now descended to the Howards and Berkleys, through Margaret and Isabel, daughters of Thomas Duke of Norfolk. Sir John Howard, son of Sir Robert Howard and Margaret, heiress of Thomas de Moubray, created Duke of Norfolk by Richard the Third in 1483 ; in a few days after that savage had so foully stolen the crown ; and the same year was presented with the title of Earl Marshal of England by the same hypocritical tyrant. And

*William, Lord Berkley* of Berkley castle in Gloucestershire, son of James, Lord Berkley, and Isabel, daughter of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, was created Earl of Nottingham; he having previously been raised to the dignity of a Viscount by Edward the Fourth. This nobleman, we are told, had such an aversion to the usurpation of Richard, that he entered into conspiracy to dethrone him, which being brought to light before the plot was ripe for execution, he was necessitated to quit the kingdom, and he fled to the Duke of Richmond in Brittany, who after becoming king, by the name of Henry the Seventh, created him Earl Marshal of England. He had three wives, but left issue by none of them; and disapproving of the matrimonial choice of his brother Maurice, his heir-at-law, on account of his wife's plebeian parentage, he disinherited him of the greater part of the family estates, particularly, of the castle and barony lands of Berkley, and gave them to the king, a great part of which continued in the possession of the crown till the death of Edward the Sixth; and the title of Earl of Nottingham, it seems, lay dormant, till it was conferred upon

*Henry Fitz Roy* by Henry the Eighth, a natural son of that monarch's by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Blount. This *love-begotten branch of the royal stock* was but six years of age when he was dignified with the above title, as well as that of Duke of Richmond, at which time he was also constituted Lieutenant-General of the king's forces north of Trent, and Warden of the Scotch marches. Shortly afterwards he was made Admiral of England; and, in the 22d of Henry the Eighth, the Lieutenancy of Ireland was given to him, Sir William Skeffington being constituted his deputy. He was also created Knight of the Garter in two years afterwards. He married Mary, daughter of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, she brought him no issue; he died in 1536.

*Charles, Lord Howard* of Effingham, son of William Howard, head of the eldest collateral branch of the Howards, was, during his father's life, one of the persons commanded by Elizabeth, in the 13th of her reign, to conduct the lady Anne of Austria, daughter to the Emperor Maximilian, from Zealand to Spain; and three years afterwards was installed Knight of the Garter. He was likewise made Lord Chamberlain to the queen, which situation his father had previously held. In the 28th of Elizabeth he succeeded the Earl of Lincoln as Lord High Admiral of England; and is stated to have been the idol of the sailors, which, coupled with his known valour, was of the utmost importance to his country in 1588, when he defeated the *professedly invincible* Spanish Armada. For this, and other services performed against the Spaniards, he was created Earl of Nottingham; and he caused a representation, in tapestry or needle-work, of the engagement with the Armada to be wrought and hung up in the House of Lords, where it hangs at the present time. In the preamble of the patent by which he was created Earl of Nottingham, it was represented that this dignity was conferred upon him, partly on account of his services in taking Cadiz in 1596, which very much enraged the Earl of Essex, who conceived the merit all his own; and he offered to assert his claim against the Earl of Nottingham, or any of his kindred in single combat. Preparative to the coronation of James the First, this nobleman was Lord High Steward, whose duty it is to precede the king on such occasions with a drawn sword. To his first wife this nobleman married Catharine, daughter of Henry (Cary) Lord Hunsdon, by whom he had two sons, William and Charles, the former dying in his father's life time, but not before he had married Anne, daughter

and sole heiress to Lord St. John of Bletsoe, by whom he left one daughter, who was married to John, Lord Mordaunt, in Bedfordshire, afterwards Earl of Peterborough. His second wife was Margaret, daughter of James Stewart, Earl of Murray in Scotland, she being naturalized by act of parliament in the first of James the First. By her he had two sons, James who died young, and Charles, who was afterwards knighted by James the First. He died in 1625, at the advanced age of eighty-eight.

*Charles*, his second son by his first wife, seems to have inherited little of his father's greatness, except his titles and hereditary estates; therefore we will pass him over with observing, that this branch of the Howards became extinct in 1681, the barony descending to Francis Howard of Great Buckham in Surry.

In the *succession* of the Earls of Nottingham hitherto I have followed Deering; and *partly so* in the circumstances; but the account of the two next great characters is given from the supplement to the Biographical Dictionary.

*Heneage Finch*, Earl of Nottingham, was the son of Sir Heneage Finch, Knight, sometime Recorder of London, and, in the first year of Charles the First, Speaker of the House of Commons; who was a fourth son of Sir Moyle Finch, of Eastwell in the county of Kent, a younger branch of the noble family of Winchelsea. He was born in the year 1621, educated in Westminster school, and became a gentleman commoner of Christ-church-College in Oxford, 1635. After he had prosecuted his studies here for two or three years, he removed to the Inner Temple, where, by his diligence and good parts, he became a noted proficient in the municipal laws, was successively barrister, bencher, treasurer, reader. &c.

Charles the Second, on his restoration, made him his Solicitor-General, and advanced him to the dignity of a Baronet, by the name of Sir Heneage Finch of Raunstone in Buckinghamshire. He was reader of the Inner Temple the next year, and chose for his subject the statute of 39 Eliz. concerning the payment and recovery of the debts of the crown, at that time thought very seasonable; and he treated it with great strength of reason, depth of law, and admirable sense.

In April, 1661, he was chosen a member of parliament for the University of Oxford; but, says Mr. Wood, he did us no good, when we wanted his assistance for the taking off the tribute belonging to hearths. In 1665, after the parliament then sitting at Oxford, had been prorogued, he was in full convocation, created Doctor of civil law; he being at that time one of the four members that had communicated the thanks of the House of Commons to the University, for their reasons concerning the solemn league and covenant, negative oath, &c. made in 1647. The creation being over, the Vice-chancellor, in the presence of several parliament men, stood up and spoke to the public orator to do his office. The orator made an admirable harangue, and said, among other things, to this effect, That the University wished they had more colleges to entertain the parliament men, and more chambers, but by no means more chimnies; at which Sir Heneage was observed to change countenance, and drew a little back.

When the disgrace of the great Lord Chancellor Clarendon drew on, in 1667, and he came to be impeached in parliament, for some supposed high crimes, Sir Heneage Finch, still Solicitor-General, shewed himself very active and forward against the noble Earl, and very frequently spoke in those debates, which ended at last in the banishment of that greatly unfortunate man. We

should have taken notice before, that he shewed himself in like manner, very busy though but according to the duty of his place, at the trial of the late king's judges, on which occasion he made several speeches and discourses.

In the year 1670, the king was pleased to appoint him his Attorney-General ; and about three years after upon the removal of the Earl of Shaftsbury from being Lord Chancellor, he was made Lord Keeper. Soon after he was advanced to the degree of a baron, by the title of Lord Finch of Daventry, in the county of Northampton (he being then owner of that manor) by letters patent, bearing date the 10th of January, in the 15th year of Charles the Second, and upon the surrender of the great seal to his majesty, on the 19th of December, 1675, he received it immediately back again, with the title of Lord High Chancellor of England.

He performed the office of Lord High Steward at the trial of William Lord Viscount Stafford, who was found guilty of high treason by his peers, for being concerned in the popish plot. In 1681 he was created Earl of Nottingham, as a reward for his many faithful services ; and in the year following, he died at his house in Queen-street, in the 61st year of his age, being quite worn out with too much business, which his station and office required. Though he lived in very troublesome and ticklish times, yet he conducted himself with so regular, exactly poised, and such even steadiness, that he still retained the good opinion both of his prince and of the people. He was distinguished by his wisdom and eloquence, and was such an excellent orator, that some have stiled him the English Roscius, the English Cicero, &c. Bishop Burnet, in the preface to his History of the Reformation, tells us that his great parts, and greater virtues were so conspicuous, that it would be a high presumption in him to say any thing in his commendation, being in nothing more eminent than in his zeal for, and care of the church of England.

His character is excellently described by Mr. Dryden, in his *Absalom and Achitophel*, under the name of Amri, thus :—

Our list of nobles next let Amri grace,  
Whose merits claim'd the Abethdin's high place ;  
Who, with a loyalty that did excell,  
Brought all the endowments of Achitophel.  
Sincere was Amri, and not only knew,  
But Israel's sanctions into practice drew ;  
Our laws that did a boundless ocean seem,  
Were coasted all, and fathom'd all by him.  
No Rabbin speaks like him their mystic sense,  
So just, and with such charms of eloquence :  
To whom the double blessing does belong,  
With Moses's inspiration, Aaron's tongue.

Under the name of this worthy person, are published, several speeches and discourses in the trial of the judges of king Charles the First, see in the book entitled, *An exact and most impartial account of the indictment, arraignment, trial, and judgment (according to law) of twenty-nine regicides, &c. London, 1660, qu. 1679, Oct.*

*Speeches to both Houses of Parliament, 7th Jan. 1673, 13th of April and 13th of Oct. 1675, 15th of Feb. 1676, 6th of March, 1678, and 30th of April, 1679.* These were spoken while he was Lord Keeper and Chancellor.

*Speech at the sentence of William, Viscount Stafford, 7th December, 1680, printed in one sheet, folio; and in the trial of the said Viscount, p. 212, 213.*

*Answers by his majesty's command, upon several addresses presented to his majesty at Hampton-court, the 19th of May, 1681, London, 1681, in one sheet, in folio.*

*His arguments; upon which he made the decree in the cause between the Honorable Charles Howard, Esq. plaintiff, Henry, Lord Duke of Norfolk, Henry, Lord Moubray his son, Henry Marquis of Dorchester, and Richard Marriott, Esq. defendants; wherein the several ways and methods of limiting a trust for terms of years, are fully debated, Lond. 1685, in nine sheets, in folio.*

He also left behind him, written with his own hand, *Chancery Reports, MS. in folio.*

*Daniel Finch*, Earl of Nottingham, was the son of the foregoing, by Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Daniel Hervey, merchant of London. He was born about the year 1647, and educated in Christchurch, in the University of Oxford, and entered early into the world, serving in several parliaments in the reign of king Charles the Second, for the city of Litchfield, and for the borough of Newton, in the county of Southampton. In 1679, he was constituted first commissioner of the Admiralty, and sworn of the Privy-council; and, in the latter end of the year following, spoke with great vigour in the House of Commons, against the bill for the exclusion of the Duke of York, declaring, "that the kings of England do not rule by virtue of any statute law," as had been suggested by some persons on the other side of the question, "since their right was by so ancient a prescription, that it might justly be said to be from God alone; and such as no power on earth ought to dispute."

Upon the decease of his father, December the 18th, 1682, he succeeded him in his titles and estate; and on the death of Charles the Second, was one of the Privy-council who signed the order, dated at Whitehall, February 6th, 1684-5, for proclaiming the Duke of York king of England.—In that reign, his lordship and the lords Hallifax and Mordaunt, afterwards Earl of Peterborough, were the chief arguers, among the temporal lords, against abrogating the test act, which they considered the strongest fence of the Protestant religion. Upon the trial of the seven bishops, he was present in the court with several other noblemen; and his brother, Mr. Heneage Finch, afterwards Earl of Aylesford, was one of the counsel for these prelates. His lordship was likewise among those noble patriots, who, from a true zeal for their religion and their country, often met to concert such advices and advertisements, as might be fit for the prince of Orange to know, that he might govern himself by them. But it being proposed to him, to invite that prince into England, he did not think proper to agree to it. The secret had been disclosed to him by the advice of the Earl of Danby and Doctor Compton, bishop of London; and the rather, as his lordship had great credit with the whole church party, being possessed, says Bishop Burnet, with their notions, and grave and virtuous in the course of his life; besides, he had stood at a great distance from the court all this reign; for though his name was still among the privy counsellors, yet he never went to the board. He, upon the first proposition, entertained it, and consented to it. But at their next meeting he said, he had considered better of that matter; and that his conscience was so restrained in these points, that he could not go further with them in it. He confessed indeed, he should not have suffered them to go so far with him in such a secret, till he had examined it better. However,

though his principles would not permit him to proceed with them, his affections would make him wish well to them, and be so far a criminal, as concealment could make him one.

Upon the prince of Orange's landing in the west, he was one of those lords, who drew up a petition, presented to the king, on November the 17th, advising him to call a parliament, regular and free in all respects; to which his lordship was for having added, "that the peers who had joined the prince, might sit in that free parliament." But this, by the other lords, was thought unnecessary. He afterwards was one of the commissioners sent by his majesty to treat with the prince.

When the convention was opened, he was the principal manager of the debates in favor of a regent, against those who were for setting up another king; supporting his opinion by many arguments, drawn from the English history, and adding a late instance in Portugal, where Don Pedro had only the title of regent conferred upon him, while his deposed brother lived. However, he owned it to be a principle grounded on the law and history of England, that obedience and allegiance were due to the king, for the time being, even in opposition to one, with whom the right was thought still to remain. He likewise told Bishop Burnet, that though he could not argue nor vote, but according to the notions which he had formed concerning our laws and constitution, he should not be sorry to see his own side out-voted; and that though he could not agree to the making of a king, as things stood, yet if he found one made, he would be more faithful to him, than those who made him, could be, according to their own principles.

When king William and queen Mary, therefore, were advanced to the throne, he was offered the post of Lord High Chancellor of England, which he excused himself from accepting, alledging his unfitness for an employment, that required a constant application; but was appointed one of the principal secretaries of state. In 1690, he attended his majesty to the famous congress at the Hague; and king James the Second, took such umbrage at his services, that in his declaration upon his intended descent in 1692, his lordship was excepted out of his general pardon.

In March, 1693-4, he resigned his place as principal secretary of state; and the year following, had a public testimony given to the integrity of his conduct, in a very remarkable instance; for, upon an examination in parliament, into the bribery and corruption of some of their own members, in order to obtain a new charter for the East India company, it appeared, by the deposition of Sir Basil Firebrace, that his lordship had absolutely refused to take 5000 guineas for his interest in promoting that charter, and £5000, on passing the act for that purpose.

Upon the accession of queen Anne, he was again appointed one of the principal secretaries of state, and in that station, had a vote of the House of Commons passed in his favor, "that he had highly merited the trust her majesty had reposed in him;" and the like sanction from the House of Lords. However, on April the 17th, 1704, he resigned that employment, and accepted of no other post during all that reign, though large offers were made to engage him in the court interest and measures, upon the change of the ministry in 1710; his refusal of which so exasperated the opposite party, that he was attacked with great virulence in several libels, both in verse and prose. He continued therefore to give his opinion upon all occasions with great freedom, and in December, the same year, distinguished himself by a vigorous speech in the House of Lords, representing, that no peace could be safe or honorable to Great Britain, if Spain and the West

Indies were allotted to any branch of the house of Bourbon ; and had so much weight in that house, that the clause, which he offered to that purpose, to be inserted in the address of thanks, in answer to her majesty's speech, was, after a warm debate, carried. He soon after moved likewise for an address to the queen, that her majesty would not treat except in concert with her allies.

When his majesty king George the First succeeded to the crown, his lordship was one of the lords justices for the administration of affairs till his arrival ; and on September 24th, 1714, was declared Lord President of the Council. But on February 29th, 1715-16, he retired from all public business to a studious course of life ; the fruits of which appeared in his elaborate answer to Mr. Whiston's letter to him upon the subject of the trinity ; for which, on March 22d, 1720-21, he had the unanimous thanks of the University of Oxford in full convocation. He died January 21st, 1729-30.

By his first wife, the Lady Essex Rich, second daughter, and one of the co-heirs of Robert Earl of Warwick, he had issue one daughter ; and by his second, Anne, only daughter of Christopher Lord Viscount Hatton, he had five sons and eight daughters. He was remarkably skilled in the whole system of English law, as well as in the records of the parliaments ; and these qualifications, joined to a copious and ready eloquence, of which he was master, gave him great weight in all public assemblies.

*Daniel Finch*, Earl of Nottingham and Winchelsea, son to the foregoing, was elected one of the Knights of the Shire for the county of Rutland in 1711, in which capacity he served until he came to the peerage. On the accession of George the First, he was appointed a gentleman of the Bedchamber to the prince of Wales, and, in October, 1715, was constituted one of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury ; but shortly after resigned his employments. In May, 1725, he was made Controller of his Majesty's Household, which office he resigned on the death of his father. In the year 1729, his lordship married Frances, daughter of the Right Honorable Basil Fielding, Earl of Denbigh, by whom he had a daughter ; but, her ladyship dying in 1734, his lordship, in January, 1737-8, married Mary, daughter and co-heiress to Sir Thomas Palmer, Baronet, of Wingham in Kent, by whom he had seven daughters. His lordship died in August, 1769, and was succeeded in his titles and estates by

*George Finch*, his nephew, who, in 1777, was appointed one of the Lords of his Majesty's Bedchamber ; and, in 1779, he was constituted Lord Lieutenant and *custos rotulorum* of the county of Rutland. His lordship's titles are, Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, Viscount Maidstone, Baron Fitzherbert of Eastwell, Baron Finch of Daventry, and a Baronet. His chief seats are, Burley, in the county of Rutland, Raunston, in the county of Buckingham, and Eastwell in the county of Kent.\*

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\* This nobleman, together with the late Duke of Dorset, the present Sir Horace Mann, &c. were members of the famous Hambledon Club, and these three, assembled at the Star and Garter, Pall Mall, for the express purpose of settling a new code of laws by which the game of cricket has ever since been regulated. His lordship however, has of late cultivated a taste for an amusement of a nobler nature, that of agriculture. He keeps in his own hand an extensive farm at Burleigh, and according to the report of the Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, of which he is a member, this peer "is a great grower of Swedish turnips." His lordship is author of a humane letter "on the Advantages of Cottagers renting Land." This peer never having been married, the heir-presumptive is George Finch Hatton, Esq. of the county of Kent. In 1788, the Earl of Winchelsea divided with ministers on the question of the Regency. On the 22d of January, 1789, this nobleman, then a Lord of the Bedchamber, rose to vindicate his own independence as an officer of his Majesty's Household, and considered all insinuations to the contrary "as merely meant to answer the temporary purposes of faction and party." On the trial of Viscount Melville in 1806, his lordship voted him "guilty" on the second and third charges.

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## CHAPTER XI.

### NOTTINGHAM WORTHIES.

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WITHOUT ranking them indiscriminately with the *worthies*, it may not be improper, at the opening of this chapter to name those characters of note, that, at different periods of our history, have chosen this town as an occasional place of residence, and who are frequently more remarkable for the exalted station in which fortune has placed them, than for refined susceptibility and sensibility of the heart, or for exalted endowments of the mind. Of this description we can name, William the *bastard*, commonly, though improperly, called *the conqueror*, king Stephen, Henry the Second, Richard the First, king John, Henry the Third, Edward the First, Edward the Second, queen Isabella and her paramour Mortimer, Edward the Third, Richard the Second, Henry the Fourth, Edward the Fourth, Richard the Third, who marched hence to meet his fate at the battle of Bosworth, Henry the Seventh, Henry the Eighth, James the First, the elector Palatine and his brother prince Rupert, queen Anne, and William the Third. Among the noblemen and gentlemen of fortune that have resided here are the following:—Lord Edward, Earl of Rutland, Sir Thomas Manners, brother to this Earl, Sir William Courtney, son to Lord George, Earl of Shrewsbury, Sir Thomas Stanhope, Sir Thomas Willoughby, Sir Anthony Strelley, Sir Edward Stanhope, Thomas, Lord Scroope, Sir Henry Pierrepont, Sir John Byron, Sir John Zouch, Sir Philip Strelley, Sir Henry Cavendish, son to the celebrated countess of Shrewsbury, Henry, Lord Stanhope, Sir Edward Osborne, Sir Thomas Peckham, Sir Thomas Hunt, the Earl of Clare and his son, Lord Houghton, Sir Thomas Hutchinson, and Sir Thomas Walmsley.

The only authors of early note, whose names have been handed down to us are, *William de Nottingham*, a provincial of the Augustinian order, who died in 1336. Among other things he wrote a Concordance of the Evangelists, which was in high repute among the religious during ages. *Johannes Plough*, rector of St. Peter's, Nottingham, for defending with his pen the right and necessity of clergymen marrying, against Hoggard, who asserted the necessity of celibacy, was forced to seek shelter at Basil in Switzerland to avoid the persecuting harpies; he however had the good fortune to die in peace in 1550. And, *William Brightmore* a native of this town, who wrote an illustration of the Book of Revelations, and died in the early part of the seventeenth century.

### COLONEL JOHN HUTCHINSON.

In reading over the Memoirs of this great man's life, so exquisitely written by his amiable widow, we find, whether we view him as a warrior, a patriot, a moralist, or a christian, that he is alike worthy the imitation of mankind. As a warrior he was provident, patient, sagacious, merciful, and a stranger to fear: he loved his soldiers with the tenderness of a father; and was by them



beloved, while they dreaded his frown more than the weapons of the foe. As a patriot, his attachment to his country and the liberties of the people surpassed every other earthly consideration: for those two objects he sacrificed his property and his beloved retirement; and as such he became the butt of the parasites of corruption and arbitrary power. As a moralist he possessed all the virtues of a Seneca or a Plato, without the avarice of the one, or the self-sufficiency of the other. Like Socrates he taught benignity by example and the precepts of philosophy; and, like him despised the scoffs of traducers and the allurements of wealth. As a christian, he was devout without bigotry, and sincere without affectation—his cheeks would have crimsoned at the practice now so generally pursued by *professors*, of seeking to conceal hypocrisy with the assumed mantle of holiness; the consequence of dishonesty in some, and of ignorant self-sufficiency in others.—“To number his virtues,” to use the language of his sublime memoirist, “is to give the epitome of his life, which was nothing else but a progress from one virtue to another, till in a short time he arrived to that height, which many longer lives never reach; and had I but the power of rightly disposing and relating them, his single example would be more instructive than all the rules of the moralists.” And again, “as he never regarded his life in any noble and just enterprise, so he never staked it in any rash or unwarrantable hazard. He was never surprised, amazed, nor confounded with great difficulties or dangers, which rather served to animate than distract his spirits; he made up his accounts with life and death, and fixed his purpose to entertain both honorably.”\*

John Hutchinson, the subject of these remarks, was the eldest son of Sir Thomas Hutchinson, of Owthorp, in this county, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Sir John Byron, of Newstead, and was born in Nottingham, September 1616, his parents having removed from Owthorp to their house on the High-pavement a short time before, on account of a scarcity of food for their cattle, which was occasioned by a preceding dry season. He received the rudiments of his education at the Free School, in Stoney-street, under Mr. Tibbalds, from which he was removed to a school, at Lincoln; but was afterwards brought back to Nottingham to have his education perfected. He married Lucy, the daughter of Sir Allen Apsley, Lieutenant of the Tower of London, by whom

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\* How much it adds to the Colonel's fame and judgment in having made choice of such a woman for his wife! The following extracts from the Corporate Records may be acceptable to the reader:—23d, November, 1645—Thomas Gamble, Mayor.—Quest. If the Governor (Col. John Hutchinson) shall be sworne Burges payinge his xlb.—Resolved upon the Quest. (null contradic) that hee shall, and thereupon hee beinge then at the hall was sworne and sent for and paid xlb. accordingly.—Question. How this xlb. shall bee disposed of.—Resolved upon the question that it shal bee given hym againe and his burgesshipp given, (and this to bee noe president nor example).—1st. Because the compayny desired him to accept of it.—2d. Because hee is not of any trade or profession to hinder any other Burgesses.—3dly. Because hee hath done faithfull and good service in his place to the state and garrison. His xlb. beinge given hym againe, in thankfulness, hee gave 5lb. of it to the poore, whereof 50s. was delivered to Mr. Hooton for Marie's parish, and 50s. to Mr. H. James for the other two parishes.

3d September, 1645—Willis Nixe, Mayor.—This companie are agreed (null contradic) that Captin Mason shall bee sworne burgess, freely, payinge nothinge for the same, (it to be noe prejudice nor example for the future) to any other, for theis reasons. Because 1st. Hee is Captain of many townsmen volunteers for defence of the towne, and hath performed that place faithfully with great paines and charge—2d. Hee is of the committee and therein hath and may doe the towne good service—3d. He is of noe trade or occupation manuell or other that will hinder or prejudice any former Burgess in any respect, neither will he (if any occasion bee) hinder but doe what he can for the good of the Corporation and the members of it.

From this it appears, that the corporation, so late as 1645, continued to designate their body by the appellation of *company*, an appellation consequent upon their emanation from the *guild or company* of merchants.

he had four sons and four daughters ; the latter of whom we know nothing of, except that Adeliza, the youngest, had the honor of being buried in her father's vault, and that another of them was married to a gentleman of the name of Orgill.

Concerning the sons, the Rev. Julius Hutchinson, editor of the memoirs, speaks thus, when noticing the pedigree of the family, "This pedigree shews that Colonel Hutchinson left four sons, "of which the youngest only, John, left issue two sons; and there is a tradition in the family, that "these two last descendants of Colonel Hutchinson emigrated, the one to the West Indies or "America, and the other to Russia; the latter is said to have gone out with the command of a "ship of war, given by Queen Anne to the Czar Peter, and to have been lost at sea. One of the "female descendants of the former, the editor once met by accident at Portsmouth, and she spoke "with great warmth of the veneration in which his descendants in the new world held the "memory of their ancestor Colonel Hutchinson."—And happy it is that there is a *new world* to appreciate such transcendent virtues !

To attempt an illustration of the virtues and abilities of the Colonel's lady, after seeing them shine forth in so eminent a manner in her inimitable, I had almost said, divine writings, would be like attempting to give whiteness to the snow, or brilliancy to the sun. Though she was of a tender and delicate frame and constitution, yet, while she retained all the endearing virtues of the one and the habits of the other, she laid aside the feminine qualities of the mind, and embarked with her husband on the stormy sea of contending politics and bloody warfare, because she considered the liberties of her country in danger. She deemed it not beneath her to dress the wounds of the bleeding warriors when in the midst of the battle's hottest rage—she administered styptics with her hands, and sweet consolation with her tongue; and while she assuaged the anguish of the wound, she expelled fear from the mind.

The circumstance which brought Mr. Hutchinson into public notice, when faction was about to distract the nation and to deluge the soil with native blood, was Lord Newark's attempting to take the ammunition from the Guildhall, in 1641, and apply it to the king's use, which was the property of the county trained bands. Mr. Hutchinson having been at York\* to present a petition to the king in behalf of the freeholders and middling class of the county, praying him to return to parliament, and, on his return to Owthorp, he called at the house of Mr. James, mayor of this town, merely to learn the news of the day, when Mrs. James informed him that Lord Newark and Sir John Digby, high sheriff of the county, were at that very time preparing the means of taking the ammunition from Guildhall. In consequence of this information he hastened thither along with his brother, Mr. George Hutchinson, to inquire into the affair. On this occasion a very interesting dialogue took place, which, as the subject of it is so intimately connected with the remarkable events which took place in this town shortly after—as the dialogue itself shews in so striking a manner the duplicity of the king's agents, and the mild, yet determined disposition of our Nottingham hero, we will give it at length.

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\* This was probably in November, as the king passed from Scotland to London during this month.

## DIALOGUE

Between Mr. John Hutchinson and Lord Newark, afterwards Marquis of Dorchester.

Mr. H. My lord, hearing that there was some question concerning the county's powder, I am come to kiss your lordship's hands, and to beseech you that I may know what your desires and intents are concerning it.—L. N. Cousin, the king desires to borrow it of the county, to supply his great necessities.—Mr. H. I beseech your lordship, what commission have you to demand this?—L. N. Upon my honor I have a commission from his majesty, but it is left behind me ; but I will engage my honor it shall be repaid the county.—Mr. H. Your lordship's honor is an engagement which would be accepted for more than I am worth ; but on such occasions as this, the greatest man's engagement in the kingdom cannot be satisfaction to the county !—L. N. The king's intents are only to borrow it, and, if the county will not lend it, he will pay for it.—Mr. H. My lord, 'tis not the value of the powder we endeavour to preserve ; but in times of danger, as these are, those things which serve for our defence are not valuable at any price, should you give us as many barrels of gold as you take barrels of powder !—L. N. Upon my faith and honor, cousin, it shall be restored in ten days.—Mr. H. My lord, such is the danger of the times, that, for ought we know, we may in less than four days be ruined for want of it ; and I beseech your lordship to consider how sad a thing it is, in these times of war, to leave a poor county and the people in it, naked and open to the injury of every passenger ; for, if you take our powder, you may as well take our arms, without which we are unable to make use of them ; and I hope your lordship will not disarm the county.—L. N. Why ! who should the county fear ? I am their Lord-Lieutenant, and engaged with my life and honor to defend them ! What danger are they in ?—Mr. H. Danger, yes my lord, great danger ! There is a troop of horse now in the town ; and it hath often happened so, that they have committed great outrages and insolences, calling divers honest men puritans and rogues, with divers other provoking terms and carriages. I myself was abused by some of them as I passed on the road. I chanced to meet some of these gentlemen, who, as soon as I past, inquired my name, and, being told it, gave me another, saying among themselves, that I was a puritan and a traitor ; as two or three honest men that came behind told me. Besides, your lordship may be far off, and we ruined before you can come to us, being unarmed and not able to defend ourselves from any body ; and this county being a road through which, under the name of soldiers, rude people daily pass from north to south, and terrify the county ; which, if they knew to be naked and unarmed, they would thereby be encouraged to greater violence and mischief.\*—L. N. The king's occasions are such and so urgent, I cannot dispense with it for any reasons, but *must have it* !—Mr. H. I hope your lordship will not deny, that the county hath a right interest, and property in it !—L. N. I do not deny it.—Mr. H. Then, my lord, I hope his majesty will not command it from them.—L. N. No, he doth but desire to borrow it.—Mr. H. Then, I hope, if he do but desire to borrow it, his majesty hath signified his request to those that have interest in it, under his hand.—L. N. Upon my honor he hath, but I have left it behind me.

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\* We here find the old English notion of self defence fully explained—resistance to the insolence of soldiers by force of arms was what the people were prepared for, and thought lawful to execute ; for the Lord-Lieutenant of the county admits the position, by not denying or questioning it.

—Mr. H. I beseech your lordship then, that you would not take it away, till you have acquainted the county with it, who only have power to lend it; and if your lordship be pleased to do this, I will engage myself, that, by to-morrow at twelve o'clock, that part of the county who have an interest in the powder shall wait on your lordship and give you their resolution.—L. N. The king's occasions cannot admit of that delay.—Mr. H. I beseech your lordship, yet be pleased to consider the dangerous consequences of taking it without the county's consent; and be pleased but to stay till they come in.—L. N. That time is more than his majesty's necessities can dispense withal.

“With that,” says Mrs. Hutchinson, “Mr. Hutchinson went down stairs, where by that time a good company of the county were gathered together, to whom he told what my lord had said to him; and they desired him that he would but stand to them, and they would part with the last drop of blood out of their bodies before he should have the powder; and said besides, that they would go up and break my lord's neck and the sheriff's out of the windows; but Mr. Hutchinson desired them to stay below, till he had once more spoken to my lord; and then, taking only one or two more with him, went up and spoke to my lord;”—

Mr. H. My lord, I am again, at the request of the county, that are below, come to your lordship, and do once more humbly beseech you, to consider the business you are about, before you proceed further in it, for it may prove of dangerous consequence if you go on.—L. N. Cousin, I am confident it cannot, for the county will not deny this to the king.—Mr. H. Its very probable they will not, if your lordship please to have patience till they can be called in, that they may be acquainted with his majesty's desires.—L. N. His majesty is very well assured of the willingness and cheerfulness of the greater part of the county to it.—Mr. H. I do not know what assurances his majesty hath of it, but if you please to look out of this window, (pointing to the countrymen below in the streets) you will see no inconsiderable number gathered, who, I fear, will not be willing to part with it.—L. N. Those are but some few factious men, not to be considered.—Mr. H. My lord, we have been happy yet in these unhappy differences, to have had no blood shed; and I am confident your lordship is so noble, and tender of your county, that it would very much trouble you, to have a hand in the first man's blood that should be spent in this quarrel.—L. N. Cousin (speaking contemptuously) it cannot come to that: fear it not, his majesty's occasions are urgent, *and must be served*.—“Here,” continues Mrs. Hutchinson, “the county came very fast up, which, when the cavalier captains saw, they slunk down.”—Mr. H. Why then, my lord, I must plainly tell you, not one here but will lose every drop of blood out of his body, before he will part with one corn of it; without your lordship can shew either a command or a request for it under his majesty's hand and seal; or that the county be called together to give their free consent to it; for we have all property and interest in it, being members of this county, and it being bought with our money, for the particular defence and safety of the same.

“My lord,” observes our memoirist, “desired to borrow part of it; but, that being denied, he turned to Sir John Digby, and took him to the window, where, after he had whispered with him a while, Sir John laid down his pen, ink and paper, with which he had been taking an account of the powder, match, and bullets. The countrymen desired my lord aloud, that he would not take away their powder out of the county;” upon which, turning to them, he spoke thus:—

Gentlemen, his majesty was assured by some, of the cheerfulness of the county's affections to him, which I am very sorry to see so much failing in, and that the county should come so much short of this town, which hath cheerfully lent his majesty one barrel of powder ; but it seems he can have none of you ! I pray God you do not repent this carriage of yours towards his majesty, which he must be acquainted withal.\* “ A countryman standing forth,” says Mrs. Hutchinson, “ asked his “ lordship this question”—“ Whether, if he were to take a journey into a place where, probably, “ he might be set upon by thieves and robbers, and having a charge about him, if any friend “ asked him to lend his sword, he would part with it, and go himself without ? My lord, the case “ is ours—our lives, wives, children, and estates, all depend upon this county's safety ; and how “ can it be safe in these dangerous times, when so many troops and companies pass through, and “ commit outrages and abuses amongst us, if we have not arms and powder wherewith to defend “ us ?”—“ My lord,” says Mrs. Hutchinson, “ made no reply ; but bade the men, whom he had “ employed to weigh the powder, desist ; and so went down the stairs. Mr. Hutchinson followed “ him ; and, as he went, an ancient gentleman, who was with my lord, whose face and name were “ both unknown to him, came to him and said these words :—*Stand to it ! I'll warrant you gentlemen, it is well done !* And, as they walked through a low room, my lord took Mr. “ Hutchinson aside and said :—Cousin, I must acquaint the king with this!”—Mr. H. My lord, its very likely you must, being employed upon his majesty's service—give him an account.—L. N. Nay cousin, (smiling) I mean not so, but must acquaint him, and I am sorry I must, that you are the head and ringleader of a faction, whereby you hinder his majesty's service.—Mr. H. My lord, I do not conceive how this can be a faction, I speaking only, out of the noble respect and honor I bear your lordship, in private to you, to prevent a mischief, the sense of these men, who, I perceived were come to know by what authority, and why, their powder, which is their proper goods and only means of safety, in these times of danger, should be taken from them ; and, if it were a faction, I am not at the head of it ; I accidentally coming to town from Sir John Byron's last night, and neither knowing nor imagining any of this business, was this morning importuned to wait on your lordship, at the Town's-hall, by many countrymen, who informed me you were taking away their powder out of the county.—L. N. Cousin, if you can answer it, I shall be glad of it ; but I'll assure you I must let his majesty know.—Mr. H. If his majesty must know it, I am very happy I spoke to none but your lordship, who, I am confident, is so noble, that you will neither add nor diminish any thing to my prejudice ; and then I am confident the justness and reasonableness of what I have said, with my innocence in speaking it, will bear me out.—L. N. Cousin, *but your name is up already !*—Mr. H. It may be so, my lord ; and I believe those that set it up had no good wishes to me ; and as it rose, so in the name of God let it fall : for I know my own clearness and innocence in any thing that can be objected against me.—L. N. Well, cousin, well, I am glad of your good resolution.

In a note, at the close of this interesting dialogue, the editor of the Memoirs observes, “ How

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\* It appears, from what fell from his lordship, that the town kept a separate depôt of ammunition, which was probably held in the Exchange-hall

“ my lord may have reported this matter to the king signifies little ; but he probably remembered  
“ as a kindness, Mr. Hutchinson’s interposition between him and the more rough arguments of the  
“ countrymen ; for there appears to have existed, on all suitable occasions, an intercourse of  
“ friendship during the remainder of their lives.”

Notwithstanding Mr. Hutchinson was young in years, and his residing at Owthorp, ever after his manly conduct on the above occasion he was looked upon by the people of Nottingham as their champion, when their liberties and property were in danger. Thus, in 1642, just before the king set up his standard here, on some of his troops, under the command of the high sheriff, being sent to seize the ammunition they had been balked of the preceding year, and also to plunder the inhabitants of their arms, the mayor sent immediately to Owthorp to acquaint Mr. Hutchinson ; which, probably, the freebooters got a hint of, for they decamp with the ammunition before he had time to arrive. Shortly after this event, Mr. Hutchinson came to reside at the family mansion in this town, which the quarter-master of the king’s forces attempted to take possession of for the use of Lord Lindsey, who had the command of them ; but Mr. Hutchinson shewed him the door, which so offended the coxcomb, that he obtained a warrant to apprehend him as a traitor, notwithstanding Lord Lindsey was satisfied as to the propriety of his conduct. To avoid the consequences, however, Mr. Hutchinson retired into Leicestershire, and subsequently into Northamptonshire, in the latter of which counties he persuaded two gentlemen of considerable fortunes to make a present of their moveable property to parliament, instead of giving it to the king, for whose use they had gotten it together ; and thus compensated for his late failure at Nottingham respecting the ammunition.

Towards the close of this year, Mr. Hutchinson returned to Nottingham, and there joining with the most respectable of the inhabitants in raising troops for the parliamentary service, he gave his plate and horses towards accomplishing the object. About this time Sir John Digby endeavoured by means of treachery, to get Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Francis Pierpoint, third son of the Earl of Kingston, into his hands ; but, through the sagacity of the former, he failed in his attempt.— This circumstance however was not without its effect ; for the people of Nottingham saw, from this act of perfidy, the taking away of their ammunition, &c. that neither the promises nor oaths of the king or his agents were to be depended upon ; they therefore set seriously about arming in their own defence ; about seven hundred of whom formed themselves into regiments, and chose Mr. George Hutchinson to command them pro tempore, he being well known in the town, from his having almost constantly resided in it, and being well beloved for his condescension and liberality. Thus was this important place secured to the parliamentary interest. Mr. Francis Pierpoint was appointed commander of the Nottingham troops, with the rank of colonel ; and Mr. Hutchinson and his brother George were constituted his lieutenants. A committee was also chosen, consisting of gentlemen of the town, with whom the commander was to consult on particular occasions, and who, of course, would have some control over his actions. Colonel Pierpoint, perhaps not being over pleased with his delicate and, in some degree, restrained line of action, delegated his authority to Mr. Hutchinson, as second in command ; and the lady of the latter insinuates, that his motives in so doing were not over honest towards her husband.

The first act in which our hero signalized himself as a military man, was in the attack upon Newark, in 1643, where he acted in the capacity of lieutenant-colonel under the command of one Ballard, at the head of some Lincolnshire men. But, Ballard was a traitor, or coward, or both; and, all the glory which Colonel Hutchinson could gain, *was that of being the last to retreat*; and, by keeping the Newarkers in awe, as a lioness retreats growling vengeance to her pursuers, while her young obtain a place of safety, he succeeded in bringing away his cannon and his brave Nottingham men in triumph from the scene of action. The queen being shortly after at Newark, and endeavouring to join the Earl of Newcastle, in order to surprise Nottingham, Colonel Hutchinson was sent to London to acquaint the parliament with the perilous situation of the town; and he so effectually executed his mission, that he obtained an order for Lord Grey, Sir John Gell, and Colonels Cromwell and Hubbard to rendezvous at Nottingham, which completely frustrated the designs of the queen. On the 29th of June, this year, our hero was invested with the command of our castle by Sir John Meldrum and the town committee, in preference to Colonel Pierpoint, who had fallen under suspicion, in consequence of his father's having declared for the king. Nor had he been long invested with this authority, before he was constrained to exercise it with some severity; for, on Sir John Meldrum's being ordered, in July, to draw the forces from Nottingham to the relief of Gainsborough, he found it necessary to draw the ordnance, consisting of fourteen pieces of cannon, up to the castle, leaving the extensive works which had been constructed about the town in a defenceless condition; because by attempting to defend them, which he could not do effectually for want of men, he must have left the castle, which was the only place he could fully depend on, without a garrison. In consequence of this proceeding, cabals were formed against him by the royalists, who had hitherto been kept in awe, and plans for giving up the town were in contemplation, a knowledge of which coming to his ears, he seized Alderman Drury and fourteen others, whom he sent prisoners to Derby, under the command of Major Ireton.

The colonel now set about putting the castle in a state of defence: he had three hundred chosen men under his command; and he obtained from London forty barrels of powder, and a proportionate quantity of ball. He likewise invited the committee and other respectable inhabitants of the town into the castle, where he maintained them, and the garrison too at his own expence, until some time in August, when he received a small supply of cash from parliament.— During this month, the Earl of Newcastle sent a flag of truce by a Major Cartwright, to demand the surrender of the castle; but the colonel returned for answer, *that the fortress should never be yielded to a papistical army and an atheistical general; and if any lord would have that poor castle, he should wade to it in blood.* The Earl took the hint, and never more sought to put the colonel's courage to the test. His *courage* being thus established, his *fidelity* was immediately after put upon its trial, by an offer from the royal party to give him indemnity for the past, and security, honors and command, if he would consent to betray his trust; but they found his fidelity equally proof against their allurements, as his courage was against their threats. The first attempt was made upon his honor by Sir Richard Byron, under the most flattering and friendly testimony; and the second by a Mr. John Wood, a magistrate of the county, who made many flattering professions and promises in the king's name. For these proofs of the colonel's courage

and fidelity, parliament, on the 20th of November, 1643, constituted him governor of the town, as well as of the castle; and accompanied the investiture of their authority with an honorable acknowledgment of his great services in the cause of the people. An event, however, was destined to prove, that a mortal can be incorruptable.

The royal forces had been sufficiently successful in the neighbourhood to enable a party thereof to take a station very near the town, among whom was a Colonel Dacre, who had lived on terms of the closest friendship with Mr. Hutchinson; he therefore sent to ask permission of the latter to admit him to make a friendly visit to the castle. The colonel sent the necessary protection, when an interesting interview took place, which ended in Colonel Dacre's soliciting Colonel Hutchinson, his brother George Hutchinson, lieutenant-colonel, and Captain Poulton to return the visit to his quarters. And, as the brave take pleasure in rising superior to suspicion, this solicitation would have been complied with, had not some persons in the castle raised objections to it after the departure of Colonel Dacre. Colonel Hutchinson therefore sent Captain Poulton to excuse the absence of himself and brother, when Colonel Dacre produced a commission, signed by the Earl of Newcastle, in these words:—"These are to authorize Colonel Dacre to treat with Colonel Hutchinson, and Lieutenant-colonel Hutchinson, for the delivery of Nottingham castle and the bridges; and to make them large promises, which shall be performed by *W. Newcastle*."—These promises were, that Colonel Hutchinson should be received into royal favor, have the castle conferred in perpetuity upon himself and heirs, have ten thousand pounds in money, and be created a peer of the realm. To Lieutenant colonel Hutchinson, for delivering up the bridges, three thousand pounds, and what command he should choose in the army; and two thousand pounds to Captain Poulton, if he negotiated the business with effect. In order to settle this affair with the greater secrecy, Colonel Dacre proposed meeting the party at St. Ann's-well. But, instead of attending to the appointment, the three gentlemen sent indignant letters by a drummer to Colonel Dacre; and thus ended a business which was dishonorable to the royal cause, and shed an eternal lustre upon our hero, his brother, and their cousin Captain Poulton.

*Noble*, the writer of the lives, or rather the defamer of the character of the fifty-nine gentlemen that tried and condemned to the block Charles Stuart, king of England, makes the following remarks on the above circumstance. "Colonel Hutchinson hereby lost a fine opportunity of aggrandizing himself and his family, which doubtless they must regret." This very *honorable* writer here informs the world of the value of his fidelity, if fortune, in one of blind freaks, had put him in a place of trust; and to whose *ig-Noble* observation the Rev. Julius Hutchinson thus replies:—"Every discerning gentleman is here informed that the editor of this work, (Memoirs of the Colonel) who is the only representative of Colonel Hutchinson in these kingdoms, is much more proud of his descent from so virtuous a man, than from the most illustrious traitor." This declaration is worthy of a Hutchinson!

When we consider that the colonel had seldom more than three or four hundred men under his command in this important station, notwithstanding, like the lord of the forest, he kept the country in awe for miles around, it is not to be supposed that many opportunities would occur wherein he could display those traits of personal courage which rendered so conspicuous some of the heroes of



antiquity. The event, however, which we are about to mention, will shew, that he was not inferior to Alexander himself in personal courage, when circumstances required its display

In the autumn of 1645, when the king, after the memorable battle of Naseby, had retired to Newark with the shattered remains of his army, Major-general Poyntz was ordered to harrass the neighbourhood of that town, preparative to its being besieged by an army of Scots, then proceeding from the north; when our colonel informed Poyntz, how prejudicial it would be to the general interest to suffer Shelford to remain in the enemy's hands. At the same time Colonel Hutchinson solicited and obtained permission to write to Colonel Stanhope,\* commander of the garrison, to surrender his charge on honorable conditions, but the *valiant* colonel returned a scornful answer, and observed, among other *elegant* expressions, *that he would lay Nottingham castle as flat as a pancake*. It was then determined to storm the garison at Shelford; and Colonel Hutchinson, at his own solicitation, had permission given him to lead on the attack at the head of his brave Nottingham troop. Having obtained possession of the town, he was, during the night, most terribly annoyed by some Shelford soldiers that had secured themselves in the church, and from thence played violently upon his men. In vain he fired at, and threatened them with immediate death, when taken, if they did not surrender; but they alike derided his fire and his threats; being secured against the former by the walls of the church, and having, as they thought, obtained protection against the latter by barricading the belfry door, and drawing up the bell ropes. The colonel, however, collected a quantity of straw, and set fire to it below them; and these fellows, who had laughed at his *fire*, were obliged to yield to his *smoke*. A regiment of Londoners received orders to commence the attack upon the garrison on one side, while the colonel and his men scaled the walls on the other, he having first, amidst a shower of bullets, to fill up a ditch over which he was obliged to pass. This work completed, the difficulty of escalading was very great, on account of the ladders being twenty staves too short; and on account of the men on the walls casting down destructive materials upon the assailants. But nothing could withstand the ardour and impetuosity of the colonel—he was the first that scaled the walls, and, “with his trenchant sword,” cut through whole ranks, and killed the captain of a celebrated regiment of papists belonging to the queen, after which the men gave way. The Londoners being repulsed, the whole weight of the garison fell upon the brave Hutchinson and his not less brave Nottingham followers, who, notwithstanding the invincibility of their conduct, must have been overwhelmed with numbers, had not Lieutenant-colonel Hutchinson, the colonel's brother, forced down a draw bridge for the admission of General Poyntz, who, on his entry, ordered that no quarter should be given to the besieged.† The slaughter was now continued with the most rancourous fury, until the colonel made his way over heaps of dead to beg of the general the lives of the then surviving, which amounted but to one hundred and forty persons. Among these was the boasting *pancake* Colonel Stanhope, who had hidden himself during the assault: but, being now found, was dragged

\* Colonel Stanhope was related to Colonel Hutchinson, on account of the father of the latter having married, to his second wife, Stanhope's aunt, the sister of his father the Earl of Chesterfield.

† The colonel, on this occasion, divested himself of his casing armour, that he might be the better enabled to use his sword.

out of his concealment, stripped naked, wounded, and cast upon a dunghill. In this deplorable condition he was found by the colonel; but, instead of triumphing over a fallen enemy, whose vain boastings had only excited his pity and contempt, the circumstance afforded him an opportunity of displaying the generosity of his heart—the lion became a lamb at the sight of human woe—he ordered the bleeding soldier to be conveyed to his own quarters—directed his own surgeon to dress his gaping wounds; while he attended his bed side and poured the conciliating language of friendship into his ear. With his tears he bathed the pallid cheeks of the sufferer, and sent up his prayers to the Father of Mercies for his recovery; but fate bade defiance to his balsams and anodynes, and heaven, on this occasion, disregarded his prayers; and Colonel Stanhope learnt in the hour of death how to appreciate the advice and friendship of a brave and virtuous man.\*

The year following Colonel Hutchinson was returned to parliament by the county, but did not attend his duty therein until after the fall of Newark, the capitulation of which he signed on the part of parliament, after having, during the siege, experienced many “hair’s breadth escapes.”—Many other circumstances, worthy of notice in the military career of our hero, will be found under the heads “Trent Bridges, Castle, &c.” which of course we shall not recapitulate.

Were we to enter into the minutia of his political connections during the great struggle for liberty, in which he performed so conspicuous a part, it would be to write the history of our country during that eventful period. We must say, however, that he was constantly beset by a nest of wretches, with whom he was necessarily leagued, who were ever watchful to conspire his overthrow, because his integrity was a constant barrier against their knavery; and because, on every investigation into the conduct of the separate parties, their characters suffered by comparison with his. He likewise frequently befriended many of them in their necessities; and, certain it is, that friendship conferred upon a knave is sure to excite his most inveterate hatred; because, from the want of principle to be honorable, and of courage to be just, he seeks for the ruin of his benefactor, as a cover to his own ungrateful and disgraceful conduct. Colonel Hutchinson was obliged to arm his *declared enemies* in his own defence, against his *professed friends*, because he concluded that his own honesty, frankness, and good nature, would act upon the candour of the *former*, as the loadstone does upon metallic substances, which he found to be the case; while the outward shew of friendship from the *latter* was like a dagger suspended over his head by a hair. His conduct, like gold in the chymist’s laboratory, always came out of the crucible of faction with increased lustre; while an increase of contempt was the wages of those that sought to deteriorate his fame. When he surrendered the command of the castle to Captain Poulton, his services were rewarded by parliament with a grant of five thousand pounds, the *whole* of which he distributed among those that had served under him, notwithstanding he was so poor, from having borrowed money to supply the exigencies of his party, and from his lands having lain uncultivated, that he could not afford for some time to rebuild his mansion at Owthorpe, which had been ravaged by

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\* Shelford Manor-house, according to Collin’s, was taken on the 27th of October, 1645. Most writers on this subject have charged the republicans with wantonly setting fire to this mansion; but Mrs. Hutchinson asserts, that it was burnt by the country people to prevent its being a trouble to them any longer. Wiverton-house submitted to the victors the next day.

the royalists. In short, by the mildness of his disposition, the conspicuousness of his virtues, his manly courage, and incorruptability of heart, he raised a shrine for the incasement of his immortality, at which the most exalted may look with envy, and the envious may gnash their teeth in the bitterness of despair ; while the truly noble hearted will drop the tear of admiration.\*

As a proof of Colonel Hutchinson's determined spirit to oppose arbitrary power, in whatever person it might appear, and of the truth of the concluding circumstance in the last note, Cromwell withdrew his commission for the government of the Isle of Jersey the very day he was constituted "Captain-general-in-chief of all the forces raised, and to be raised, by authority of "parliament within the commonwealth of England," notwithstanding that commission had been granted by Lord Fairfax, at the earnest solicitation of the inhabitants of Jersey. It is true, that, prior to this, Cromwell had endeavoured to procure for the colonel the command of Hull, which he positively refused to accept of ; first, because he thought that that crafty general wanted to attach him to his ambitious views ; and secondly, because the commission was to be obtained by intrigue, and at the expence of the man who then held it, without any charge of dishonor being brought against his conduct : the colonel therefore undertook to plead his cause to prevent his commission from being taken clandestinely out of his hands ; and thereby kept him in his command. Another remarkable instance of Cromwell's dread of Colonel Hutchinson, as a military man, is to be found in the following circumstance. When it was thought that Cromwell's situation was dangerous, and the country's still more so, through that general's permitting Charles the Second, to enter England with a powerful army of Scots in 1651, a short time previous to the battle of Worcester, the council of state gave a commission to the colonel to raise two troops in Nottingham and the county, with an order for him to join Cromwell with all convenient dispatch. He soon raised three troops among his old soldiers, who wished for an opportunity of serving under him again ; but, when they arrived at the army, Cromwell dispersed them among his broken regiments, and left the colonel no men to command ; therefore his commission ceased to be of any use. And we have Cromwell's own words for the bravery of these men in the battle of Worcester ; for, in his letter to parliament, which contains an account of the victory, he says, "Your new

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\* The beautiful passage we are about to give from Mrs. Hutchinson, respecting the death of Colonel Thornhagh at the battle of Preston, Lancashire, when Cromwell defeated the Scots under Duke Hamilton on the 17th of August 1648, will plead in excuse for our thus stepping a little out of the way. Colonel Thornhagh owned the delightful seat at Fenton, in the north of this county ; was chosen representative for the borough of Retford, in 1646 ; and was the particular friend of Colonel Hutchinson. The passage alluded to is as follows :—"In the beginning of the battle, the valiant Colonel Thornhagh was wounded to death. Being, at the beginning of the charge, on a horse as courageous as became such a master, he made such furious speed to set upon a company of Scottish lancers, that he was singly engaged and mortally wounded before it was possible for his regiment, though as brave men as ever drew a sword, and too affectionate to their colonel to be slack in following him, to come time enough to break the fury of that body, which shamed not to unite all their force against one man ; who yet fell not among them, but being faint and all covered with blood, of his enemies as well as his own, was carried off by some of his own men, while the rest, enraged for the loss of their dear colonel, fought not that day like men of human race : deaf to the cries of every coward that asked mercy, they killed all, and would not a captive should live to see their colonel die ; but said the whole kingdom of Scotland was too small a sacrifice for that brave man. His soul was hovering to take her flight out of his body, but that an eager desire to know the success of the battle kept it within, till the end of the day, when the news being brought him, he cleared his dying countenance, and said, I now rejoice to die, since God hath let me see the overthrow of this perfidious enemy—I could not lose my life in a better cause ; and I have the favor from God to see my blood revenged : he then expired.

After the death of this brave man, his soldiers petitioned to have Colonel Hutchinson for their commander, as the only man worthy to supply his place ; but Cromwell feared the honesty of the latter too much to trust him with a command, which he had the power to prevent ; he therefore controlled the proposed appointment.

“ raised forces did perform singular good service, for which they deserve a very high estimation and acknowledgment.”

The commission which authorized the colonel to sit in judgment upon Charles the First, he received with great reluctance ; nor would he act under it, until, by prayer and supplication, he considered himself called upon by a power, superior to kings and parliaments, to take part in that novel trial. And as a proof that *justice*, and not *blood*, was his object, he never could be induced, either as member of parliament or counsellor of state, to consent to the death of any other state criminal, however notorious his actions had been against the parliamentary interest ; always advancing this noble axiom on such occasions—*that mercy and gentle admonition will create friends ; while the blood of one of our countrymen but fosters the seed of real enemies !*

As a counsellor of state, which station he occupied two years, he possessed ample facilities of enriching himself by compounding with the unfortunate royalists for their forfeited estates, or by taking bribes to support their fallen interests ; practices which some of his colleagues were dishonorable enough to pursue. But Hutchinson, instead of thus acting, made it part of his business to seek out supplicants, whose causes he pleaded before the council, with all the warmth of a settled friendship ; and the only recompence he ever received, resulted from the approbation of a good conscience, and from an honorable ambition in having stood between poverty and many of those persons that had been marked as victims to be sacrificed at its cruel altar. He likewise rescued several from an ignominious death by his kind interference ; one of whom we will mention :—Duke Hamilton, the Earl of Holland, Lord Capell, Lord Goring, and Sir John Owen, had been condemned to death by a second high court of justice, of which the colonel refused to be a member ; and great interest was made in parliament to save the lives of the peers, when he observed, that no one spoke in behalf of the poor knight, which partiality so moved his generous soul, that he told Colonel Ireton, who sat by him, if he would second him, he (Mr. Hutchinson) would make a motion in favor of the neglected man, to which the other assented. On inquiry they found that Sir John Owen had sent a petition to the clerk of the house, accompanied with a desire for him, to prevail upon some member to present it ; but he declared that he had not been able to find one who would undertake the task. With this, these two generous relatives\* presented the petition, and supported it so effectually, that they obtained the unhappy man's liberty as well as his life : the others with the exception of Lord Goring, were executed. And not the least remarkable part of this business is, though these gentlemen had thus acted towards a friendless stranger, he never gave them thanks for their pains. Ingratitude, what a monster thou art ! and yet how many cherish thee in their bosoms ! Mr. Hutchinson alike detesting tyranny in whatever shape, or in whose conduct soever it might appear, when Cromwell assumed the reins of power, he retired to his estate at Owthorp, where, in the sweets of domestic felicity, he endeavoured to forget the crimes of other men, and his own former dangers, his watchings and his toils. He now rebuilt his mansion, *and stored it well with good old English hospitality*. He planted woods, and laid out gardens, lawns, and vistas ; and nursed the rising objects of his solicitude

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\* Colonel, afterwards General Ireton, was a native of Altenborough in this neighbourhood ; and was cousin to Colonel Hutchinson.

with a mother's care. He became the principal preceptor to his children, and the patron of the fine arts. As a magistrate he was indefatigable—he caused hordes of beggars to disappear, by giving them employment; and he restored harmony and comfort to a divided and disordered peasantry, more by example and persuasive eloquence, than by the corrective hand of power.—After this, it will be needless to add, that he was bountiful to the poor.\*

Mr. Hutchinson's felicity was not interrupted till the year 1659, when Richard Cromwell, after the death of his wonderful father, pricked him for the office of high sheriff for the county, for the pitiful purpose of preventing his being elected a knight of the shire, in the parliament then about to be chosen. He therefore hastened to London to resent this act of preclusion; but Richard, by exonerating *himself* from the intrigue, and by representing the service the colonel might perform in the county, if he consented to accept the office of high sheriff, so wrought upon his good nature, as to cause him to yield. But Richard, finding the government too heavy for his tame and unambitious spirit to bear up against; and, what is very probable, he might receive a compensation to resign, which would be no difficult ask to furnish, as his parliament was held in great contempt; it was therefore found necessary to call in those members that had been turned out of the house by Cromwell in 1648, of which number Mr. Hutchinson was one, who took his seat accordingly. Having occasion to come home shortly after, to settle some domestic business, he heard, when about to return to London, that Lambert had dissolved the parliament by force.—Lambert and Fleetwood, the latter of whom had married Ireton's widow, knowing his irreconcilable hatred to tyranny, and dreading his lion-like courage, his great influence and the inexhaustable resources of his mind, thought themselves unsafe in their assumption of power so long as he was at large; they therefore determined, if possible, to get him into their toils. But, before their artifices could get the better of his sagacity, the army deserted them; and the twice excluded members were again called upon to take their seats in parliament. This event took place on the 26th of December, 1659.

Things being now considered desperate on the part of the republicans, many of the royalists made overtures to Mr. Hutchinson to join their party, under the most impressive promises of forgiveness for the past, and honors and rewards for the future. To such overtures he always presented a stern inflexibility of soul, being determined not to hasten the ruin of a cause which he had exerted all his virtues to support. He was also solicited to join Lambert against Monk, after the treachery of the latter was no longer doubted; but he gave an absolute refusal, on account of the former's manifest intention to ape Cromwell in power, without his genius to direct it. This is, perhaps, the only instance in which the sternness of Mr. Hutchinson's virtue stood in the way of his country's good. For, being idolized by the army, and revered by the people, he might have joined Lambert for the overthrow of Monk; and, when the latter object had been accomplished,

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\* We will relate an anecdote here, which would have broken the thread of the text:—At the death of Ireton, to whom Hutchinson was most sincerely attached, Cromwell, in order to mortify the republican stiffness of our hero, neglected to invite him to the funeral, nor did he send him mourning, the doing of which was the custom of those times. In consequence Mr. Hutchinson, by way of innocent revenge, appeared among the mourners dressed in a suit of scarlet laced with gold. Cromwell, in confusion, apologized, and Hutchinson treated him with contempt!

which, with the invincibility that Hutchinson's fame would have drawn around the republican standard, would not have been a very difficult task, he might have caused Lambert and Fleetwood to have been impeached for their violation of the sanctity of parliament ; and thus by one stroke have rid the nation of *three* men, that, after having been the defenders of its liberties, were seeking by different means, to enslave it. But Hutchinson missed this opportunity: and the nation was again doomed to be cursed with the rule of the Stuarts.

Notwithstanding the gloom which now seemed to overshadow his future fortunes, new honors still awaited the hero of our narration. Very early in 1660, a general election took place, when the freeholders of the county strongly solicited Mr. Hutchinson to become again their representative ; but he, out of courtesy to Mr. Wm. Pierpoint, gave way to Lord Houghton, his son-in-law ; and so great was the disappointment when he could not be found in the town, that many of the freeholders refused to give their suffrages, particularly fifty from Newark, a town against which the colonel had carried on such bitter warfare. About the same time, such violent animosities took place between the soldiers quartered at Nottingham and the inhabitants thereof, that lives were lost and many were wounded on both sides: nay, the soldiers absolutely formed in the meadows for the purpose of storming the town ; and most likely the two parties would have come to the most dreadful extremities, as they were alike determined, had not Mrs. Hutchinson, who carried in her character the charms and influence of her husband's name, and who happened to be in the town, prevailed upon them to desist, until such time as each party could send up their complaints to General Monk. An agent of the army, however, got the start of the deputation sent by the inhabitants, and he obtained an order from the general, with which he posted down, to sack the houses of those that had rendered themselves obnoxious to the soldiery. But Mr. Hutchinson, no doubt being made acquainted with the circumstances of the case by his lady, called upon Monk the same day in which the order had been issued against the inhabitants ; and, by his persuasive reasoning, he obtained a counter order, and sent a messenger with it with all possible speed ; but still the counter order did not arrive until the soldiers had rifled some of the houses ; so eager were these *protectors* of the people's lives and fortunes to shew that they were not destitute of *courage*. This timely stoppage of a crying mischief went not without its reward ; for when the day came for electing members of parliament for the town, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Arthur Stanhope, and Dr. Plumtre were put in nomination, the latter violently opposing the former, though he owed his preferment in life to Mr. Hutchinson's father ; but his ingratitude could not induce the freemen of Nottingham to be ungrateful also ; they being determined to convert their *preserver* into their *protector*, by constituting him their representative in parliament.

A period was now fast approaching which was to finish the glorious career of Colonel Hutchinson's active life, by the investiture of the crown into the hands of Charles the Second—by the obscenities of a libertine court, and the miseries attendant upon misrule. The presbyterians, as they were called, to be revenged on the independents, for not following their religious dogmas, joined with the high tories in parliament, in voting for the restoration, which, as is generally known, took place on the 29th of May, 1660 ; and in June, all those members that had been concerned in the late king's death, were called upon to speak for themselves ; when Mr. Hutchinson, the moment this

intimation was given, said; "That for his actings in those days, if he had erred, it was the  
 "inexperience of his age, and the defect of his judgment, and not the malice of his heart, which  
 "had ever prompted him to pursue the general advantage of his country more than his own; and  
 "if the sacrifice of him might conduce to the public peace and settlement, he should freely submit  
 "his life and fortune to their dispose. That the vain expence of his age, and the great debts his  
 "public employment had run him into, as they were testimonies that neither avarice nor any other  
 "sinister interest had carried him on, so they yielded him just cause to repent that he ever forsook  
 "his own blessed quiet, to embark in such a troubled sea, where he had shipwrecked all things,  
 "but a good conscience. And, as to that particular action relative to the king, he desired them to  
 "believe, he had that sense of it, which befitted an Englishman, a christian, and a gentleman."

After this short, but unpremeditated address, which was much applauded by, and made a deep impression upon the house, he retired to a private lodging near Westminster Abbey, there to wait in calm resignation the bursting of the threatening storm.\* Shortly after out comes a proclamation which enjoined all those that had sat in judgment upon the king to deliver themselves up to royal clemency, except seven, against whom the door of mercy was shut. Mr. Hutchinson was among the former; and, at the solicitations of his friends, had yielded to surrender up his person, in the hope of preserving his estates to his family; but his lady prevailed on him to retract this resolution, being desirous rather to sacrifice her last shilling than her husband's liberty, much more the endangering his life. *And, in making application for his pardon, she disobeyed his orders for the first time in her life.* But where is the man that glorieth not in this act of disobedience, since it sprung from the tender emotions of the heart, triumphing over the dictates of duty engraven on the mind? This amiable soother of her partner's woes secretly wrote a letter, in the name of her husband, to the speaker of the House of Commons, pleading indisposition on his part, and intreating the house to permit him to remain at his lodgings until they had decided on his case. This letter, aided by Sir Allen Apsley's and several other gentlemen's interference, had the desired effect—Mr. Hutchinson was that day voted free from all engagement, on account of the part he had taken in the troubled state of the country; and the judgment upon him was, that he should never be employed in any capacity under his majesty's government. On his returning a petition of thanks to the house, they also voted his estates to be free from any mulct or confiscation; and to the honor of the members be it recorded, not a voice was raised among them on the occasion, but what sounded Hutchinson's praise. Attempts were made shortly after by some court sycophants to get a heavy fine passed upon his estates, and a bill actually passed the House of Peers for that purpose, but it was rejected by the Commons, though some historians have ignorantly stated to the contrary. But this parliament was too honest for Charles, who therefore dissolved it, and called another the May following, that he hoped would be more congenial with his views; and to the misfortune of the nation, he was not disappointed in his expectations.†

The reader will no doubt have concluded, from the relation of the last circumstance respecting

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\* The following is copied from the Journals of the House:—June 9th, 1680. "Resolved, that John Hutchinson, Esq. one of the judges of the late king's majesty, be discharged from being a member of this House."

† The Rev. Julius Hutchinson says, this parliament was principally composed of the high church party.



Colonel Hutchinson, that his political troubles were now at an end; and that he was making his way in all haste to Owthorp, there to end his days in domestic felicity and in the pleasure of doing good.—No such thing! Hutchinson was expected to bow the head, as well as the knee, to the newly raised *idol*, as an acknowledgment for his pardon; but he had not been accustomed to worship mortals; nor would he do it now; particularly one whose immorality was as detestable, as the exercise of his power was unjust. Besides, the colonel was unchangeably honest, as inflexible in his principles as the mountain cedar, a steady friend to the people, from whom he thought all power ought to emanate, and was still powerful in the veneration paid to his name; which, in the estimation of Charles and his flatterers, were qualities too dangerous for a subject to possess.—And, for these qualities, we have yet to exhibit the hero of our narration as a victim *slowly sacrificed* at the altar of broken faith, violated justice, and guilty fear.\* It is true his *body* was suffered to be at large until the 11th of October, 1663, but his *mind* was attempted to be kept continually on the rack; though in this expectation his enemies were miserably disappointed, for his philosophy and religion rendered him proof against their shafts. Nor did they arrest him then without violating Magna Charta; but Charles and his ministers, like some modern statesmen, *knew how to exert a vigour beyond the law.*†

The trouble the colonel had about his estates, prior to his arrest, was very great, notwithstanding they had been declared free by parliament; but the resolution he invariably displayed, put his enemies often to the blush, and gave him repeated triumphs of the mind. To add to the number of insults offered to his feelings, he was required to give evidence against some of his old associates; but he never could be induced to swear to any of their writings, except such as belonged to persons that were dead. On this account, Charles was heard to say, “I have been prevailed upon to spare a man, who would do the same thing for me, as he did for my father, if opportunity offered; for he is still unchanged in his principles, and is readier to protect than accuse his old associates.”—What a compliment was Charles paying to Hutchinson, without designing it! If any thing good now happened to our hero, it was doubly sweet, because wholly unexpected; for how was *he* to expect any good from the faction that then governed the land? and if evil came, he was doubly fenced; because he was neither *alarmed* nor *deceived*. Mrs. Hutchinson was also urged to betray the associates of her husband, sometimes by the threat of the ruin of her family, and again with the most flattering promises; but threats and promises were alike ineffectual. Against Sir Henry Vane, whose life was sacrificed to the manes of Lord Strafford, and against Mr. St. John, and Mr. William Pierpoint, her evidence was particularly solicited; but she proved, what is often disputed, that a woman can keep secrets, even at the risk of the ruin of her family. What a valuable woman!! What a glorious pair!!

The first insult which the papist, and then government faction, offered to the colonel, after he had defeated the wretches that lusted for his estates, was by a Captain Cooper, who, by authority, ordered the plundering of his house at Owthorp of all his arms and armour, amounting to about

\* Charles, in his declaration from Breda, had promised indemnity to all, except those that were excepted against by parliament.

† Charles once observed to Lord Clarendon, that there were ways, besides the common course of law, to deal with the factious spirits.



an hundred pounds value. Soon after this violence had been committed upon an Englishman's dearest privilege, an order arrived from Bennett, secretary of state, (afterwards the justly disgraced Earl of Arlington) to seize upon all the pictures, &c. in the colonel's house, which he had bought out of the late king's collection, and for which he had paid from £1000 to £1500. About this time too a coxcomb of the name of Golding, with a gang of knaves at his heels, was permitted to lord it over Owthorp and the neighbouring villages; and in one of his freaks, he beset the colonel's house, and threatened destruction to the whole of the family, notwithstanding his amiable lady was near her time of childbirth; while he applied in vain to the constituted authorities for protection—his own courage and character, though himself was unarmed, formed his best means of defence. *Guilt and cowardise are as nearly allied, as are innocence and intrepidity.\**

The night of the 11th of October, 1663, presented one of those awfully tempestuous scenes, which superstition, in its most innocent shape, supposes the Deity to display for the purpose of awakening repentance in the breasts of thoughtless mortals to a sense of future prospects and apprehensions. It was Sunday night; and Colonel Hutchinson, though very unwell, had just finished prayer, after having expounded to his family some part of Paul's epistle to the Romans, when he was informed of the approach of unwelcome visitants by the trampling of horses and the rude voices of men. With a rudeness, truly characteristic of the cause in which they were employed; they ransacked the house of this pious and just man, under pretence of seeking for arms; but they found none, except four fowling-pieces which hung up in the kitchen. The party were commanded by one Atkinson of Newark, who, probably, had felt the effects of the colonel's courage, without knowing how to appreciate the virtues of an honorable enemy; and who having failed in his endeavours to ruin him in parliament, now obtained an opportunity of exercising the petty revenge of a coward. This fellow, after he had exercised his bayonet authority as long as he pleased, in frightening the women and children, produced an order from one Francis Leke, a deputy lieutenant of the county, for the seizure of the colonel's person. He pleaded the ill state of his health, with the offer of accommodation for the party till morning; and also that this was one of those nights in which the voice of heaven, in the raging of the tempest, might be supposed to say, *at least for the present let the angry passions of the human breast lie still!*

Oh, no! these executioners of the rankling vengeance of the tyrant, were alike deaf to the voice of humanity and of heaven! They hurried their victim away to Newark, in the midst of the pelting fury of "the pitiless storm," and placed him close prisoner in the worst room at the Talbot inn, which was kept by a person of the name of Thompson, whose inhuman treatment of the colonel was not put an end to until the latter had inflicted upon him a severe corporeal chastisement. After eight days' imprisonment the colonel was carried before the Marquis of Newcastle, who, when Earl, as the reader will recollect, having put his honorable mind to the test, now treated him with that distinction which his virtues merited; and, being fully satisfied of the purity of his conduct, and having no charge against him, except a letter of suspicion from the

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\* In the winter of 1661, which is about the time above alluded to, the papists attempted to burn several towns, &c. in this neighbourhood; particularly they attempted to burn Nottingham, by setting fire to some buildings; but the design was frustrated, after about £200 worth of property had been destroyed.

dishonorable Duke of Buckingham, he liberated him on his own honor, which he knew was the compleatest safeguard of his person, while he wrote to the privy council for instructions. The colonel now retired to Owthorp, but, in a few days, he was again conducted to Newark by a party of horse. The next day Mr. Leke brought him a letter from the Marquis of Newcastle, in which that nobleman expressed, in very lively language, the mortified feelings of an honorable mind, at being compelled by circumstances to act contrary to those feelings. This letter contained a copy of one from the Duke of Buckingham to the Marquis, commanding the latter to keep Mr. Hutchinson close prisoner, without pen, ink, and paper, and which likewise contained the following remarkable sentence. "That though he (the Duke) could not make it out as yet, he hoped he "should bring Mr. Hutchinson into the plot."\* On the 29th of October the colonel was removed from Newark; he arrived in London on the 3d of November, and was sent to the Tower under a charge of *treasonable practices*, by authority of a warrant signed by Secretary Bennett, and dated on the 20th of October. If the reader should be unacquainted with the practice of a tyrannic court, he will be a little staggered at this warrant being dated about the same time in which Buckingham's letter was written to the Marquis of Newcastle. The following examination of the colonel by Secretary Bennett, which was the only one of any consequence he underwent, will shew the futility of the charge brought against him; and prove that the malice of the reigning faction, and his sterling virtue, were the only charges against him; and that, as the wretch Clarendon said, when speaking of the family of the colonel about the same time, "We must keep their family down."

Examination of Colonel Hutchinson at Whitehall, on the 6th of November:—Q. Where have you lived these four or five months?—A. Constantly at my house in Nottinghamshire. Q. What company have resorted to your house?—A. None! not so much as my relations, who scarcely ever see me. Q. What company do you frequent?—A. None! for I never stir out to visit any. That is very much, replied Bennett! Q. Do you know Mr. Henry Neville?—A. Very well! Q. When did you last see him?—A. To the best of my remembrance, never since the king came in. Q. When did you write to him?—A. Never in my life. Q. When did Mr. Neville write to you?—A. Never! Q. Have any messages passed between you?—A. None at all! Q. Have none moved any proposition to you concerning a republic?—A. I know none so indiscreet. Q. What children have you?—A. Four sons and four daughters. Q. How old are your sons? A. Two are at men's estate, and two are children.—Q. Have not your sons done something to injure you?—A. Never, that I know of; I am confident they have not. Q. Do you go to church to hear divine service and the common prayer?—A. No! for I stir not out of my own house. Q. Do you not hear them read?—A. To speak ingenuously, no! Q. What then do you do for your soul's comfort?—A. Sir, I hope you will leave that account between God and my soul†.

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\* This is what historians call the *northern plot*; into which it was hoped by those monsters, Clarendon, Buckingham, and Secretary Bennett, that some of their *trepanners*. (as court spies were then called,) and who were the promoters, under the management of the three knaves just named, would be able to connect the name of Hutchinson by false swearing; but none were found wicked enough for the task.

† On this subject, the Rev. Julius Hutchinson remarks, "What will the reader think of this gentleman, when he is informed, that he was himself a concealed papist, and privy to the king's being so too?"

Mr. Hutchinson was now ordered back to the Tower ; and while he was continued there, he was subjected to every insult, which the petty instruments of tyranny could invent, to harass his placid and undaunted mind.\* When he was sorely troubled with a corroding flux, he was even denied the use of a *night conveniency*, and of the privilege of going out of his room, in which he was compelled to abide night and day ; and all this without any charge ever being exhibited against him, or his being able to obtain a copy of the warrant by which he was arrested and detained. Mrs. Hutchinson was of opinion too, to add to the rest of their cruelties, that they attempted to poison him, under the shew of kindness made to him a short time previous to his leaving the Tower. *Timeo danaos et dona ferentes* : ('rust not the fraudulent present of a foe.) The reasons in support of Mrs. Hutchinson's opinion are, first, it is certain, that the person who presented the colonel with a bottle of wine, had administered poison to Sir Henry Vane, by similar means : secondly, this was the only act of kindness ever shewn to the colonel by his vile keepers, while in the Tower ; and which was done under pretence of reconciliation : thirdly, an innocent warden, who drank part of the wine, died shortly after : and, fourthly, the colonel himself was taken very ill on the occasion. At length an order was issued for his removal to Sandown Castle, in Kent, where the last scene in the tragedy was to be performed by his murderers, and where he was doomed to the care of a set of wretches, if possible, more despicable than those from whose hands he had escaped.

The walls of this mansion of misery and death were four yards thick ; and yet so crazy withal, as not to be proof against a shower of rain. The room in which the colonel was confined was unglazed, and had five doors opening into it, the principal one of which opened for the cold sea breeze to enter unobstructedly. Here his very clothing became mouldy every day, and impregnated with saltpetre. Beds and provisions he had to procure at a great expense for himself and friends, and for a fellow prisoner, confined in the same room ; or, what would have been more intolerable to his susceptible mind—to have seen him perish through want.† He divided his time, in this sad abode, between conversation with his friends, the polishing and arranging of shells into mosaic work, which they gathered for that purpsse on the sea shore, and the reading of his Bible ; from which sources he drew a sweet consolation which rendered his situation enviable even to the tyrant and his minions, who were racking their inventions for new means to torment him, while he smiled at, and treated their cruelty with contempt. But, notwithstanding the dignity and serenity of his mind, the damp and noxious atmosphere of his inhospitable mansion, soon began to shew its effect upon his body, by wasting it away, while his spirit, depending upon the retributive justice of the Deity, as well to his persecutors and the nation at large as himself, remained unsubdued—unshaken. It was evident, however, that his dissolution was fast approaching ; and fortune, in one of her capricious whims, contrived that his beloved wife should be denied the sad satisfaction of closing his

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\* The wretch that was employed to torment him, was a Sir Joho Robinson, Lieutenant of the Tower, and was the same monster that was employed as tormenter of the celebrated William Penn. But, in both cases, it was nothing more than the tooth of the snarling wolf applied to stuff of marble texture—the minds of the patriots were invincible—the tormenter alooe received the torment. And we have merely mentioned the name of the monster, that it may have another chance of living to eternal infamy ; and as a hint to others in like situations, what they have to expect, if their practice should be of a like description.

† This person, whose name was Gregory, had been a captain in the parliamentary army ; and had now nothing to subsist on but the colonel's bounty, or what a ruined and distressed wife could send him from London.

dying eyes, which, to use the words of Campbell's celebrated ballad, had "melted in love, and kindled in war!" she having been called away to Owthorp for the purpose of settling some family business, and with the fond hope of procuring her husband additional comforts. A short time previous to his being confined to his bed, Sir Allen Apsley, his lady's brother, who was high in the interest of the court, had procured an order for him to have the privilege of walking on the sea shore with a guard; but this rather hastened than retarded his approaching end; for, having been accustomed to much exercise, his constitution had become much impaired by his close and cruel confinement, (to say nothing of the noxiousness of the prison) so that he could not support the cold unbroken breezes which blew upon the coast of Kent. On the 3d of September, he was seized with pain and shivering in his bones, like an ague fit, which caused him to go to bed. On the second day after he kept his bed, and the succeeding night was the last in which he slept; for he never slept more till death closed his eyes, which was on the 11th of the said September.

Shortly after his attack on the 3d, his brother, Mr. George Hutchinson, who had attended him during his confinement, sent for a medical man from Deal; but he, distrusting his judgment, desired the aid of Dr. Jachin from Canterbury, which was accordingly obtained; but he, though he complied with the request, said his journey would be of no use, when he was informed in what room the colonel had been kept; "for," said he, "that chamber has killed him;" which testimony he gave upon oath when the coroner's inquest sat over the body. What *mercy*, in sending this great and good man to Sandown! This was one of Charles's "ways besides the law, of dealing with the factious spirits!" A remarkable instance of the colonel's strength of mind in contending even with death itself, was manifested on this occasion. After being told that he was dying, as his pulse was nearly gone, and his head deadly cold, he rose up in bed and exclaimed, "Doctor, I would fain know your reason why you fancy I am dying; for I feel nothing in myself, my head is well, my heart is well, and I have no pain or sickness any where!" The doctor was still more amazed to find him cheerful when his pulse was entirely gone, and advised the calling in additional aid; but as they were about writing for Dr. Ridgely, the colonel exclaimed, "'Tis as I would have it! 'tis as I would have it!" and immediately expired without a groan. By his own particular desire his body was brought to his own village of Owthorp, and was there interred in the church, nearly adjoining his mansion. His widow raised a mural monument to his memory, on which is engraven the following inscription, supposed to be of her writing:—

*Quosque Domine !*

IN A VAULT UNDER THIS WALL LIETH THE BODY OF

JOHN HUTCHINSON,

OF OWTHORP, IN THE COUNTY OF NOTTINGHAM, ESQ.

ELDEST SONNE AND HEIRE OF SIR THOMAS HUTCHINSON BY HIS FIRST

WIFE, THE LADY MARGARET, DAUGHTER OF SIR JOHN BIRON,

OF NEWSTED, IN THE SAYED COUNTY.

This monument doth not commemorate  
Vaine ayrie glories, titles, birth, and state;  
But sacred is to free, illustrious grace,  
Conducting happily a mortal's race;

To end in triumph over death and hell,  
 When, like the prophet's cloake, the fraile flesh fell  
 Forsaken as a dull impediment,  
 Whilst love's swift fiery chariot climb'd th' ascent.

Nor are the reliques lost, but only torn,  
 To be new made, and in more lustre worn.  
 Full of this ioy he mounted, he lay downe,  
 Threw off his ashes, and took up his crowne.

Those who lost all their splendor in his grave,  
 Ev'n there yet no inglorious period have.

He married Lucy, the daughter of Sir Allen  
 Apsley, Lieutenant of the Tower of London,  
 by his third wife, the Lady Lucy, daughter  
 of Sir John St. John, of Lidiard Tregos, in  
 the county of Wilts, who dying at Ow-  
 thorpe, October 11, 1659, lieth buried in the  
 same vault.

He left surviving by the sayd Lucy 4 sons ;  
 Thomas, who married Jane, the daughter of  
 Sir Alexander Radcliffe, buried in the same  
 vault ; and Edward, Lucius, and John : and  
 4 daughters ; Barbara, Lucy, Margaret, and  
 Adeliza ; which last lies buried in the same  
 vault.

He died at Sandowne castle, in Kent, after  
 11 months harsh and strict imprisonment,  
 —without crime or accusation,—upon the  
 11th day of Sept. 1664, in the 49th yeare of  
 his age, full of ioy, in assured hope of a  
 glorious resurrection.

To sum up the character of this great and good man : He sat in judgment over his prince, because he thought the violated rights of his country demanded public justice ; because he thought the man, that had placed himself without the pale of the law, ought to be made to feel the consequence of his own daring, as a warning to others ; and because he thought such prince ought to answer to the people for the numerous crimes committed in his name. But, had the king acknowledged the sovereignty of the people, by putting himself on his trial, or have cast himself upon the nation's clemency, Hutchinson would have been the first to have seen justice duly administered—to have extended the hand of mercy ; or, on honorable conditions, to have restored the crown to the royal captive. Fate, however, ordered it otherwise, perhaps for the wisest of purposes.—He, with much reluctance, signed the fatal instrument ; and, during the course of his political life, this was the only act, which he thought justifiable, that he hesitated to perform. He was a friend to Cromwell, so long as Cromwell was a friend to the liberties of the people, after which he became his foe.—But, notwithstanding this, he forewarned Cromwell of a plot which was laid to take away his life ; because private vengeance was so foreign to his nature, that he would not purchase even the

liberties of his country at the expense of public justice. When he could no longer serve his country, and, at the same time, preserve his honor unsullied, he retired, like Cincinnatus, with his family, and lived in the grandeur of rustic simplicity, and on the inexhaustable stock of his own virtues. These virtues, which have given immortality to his name, and which ought to act as a beacon to patriots in every age, at length became the source of his ruin, as they had been, and continue to be that of his glory, because, like so many upbraiding spectres, they haunted the wicked pursuits and obstructed the disgusting pleasures of the reigning debauchee, who therefore determined to destroy the object of his daily and nightly dread; vainly thinking to destroy a *Hutchinson* by the entombment of his mortal frame. The sycophantic instruments of the cruel tyrant seized their victim in his hallowed abode, while pouring forth in prayer the fervency of his soul, amidst a kneeling and adoring family, and dragged him to a place where infamy and death were set as his attendants. The *latter*, while he heaved a manly sigh over the misfortunes of his country, and gloried in the actions of a well spent life, relieved from the troubles occasioned by the *former*.—His obsequies were performed by his family; (I need not say with affection) while his tenantry, to whom he had been a father, sung a requiem over his tomb, and moistened the soil with their tears.

### GILBERT MILLINGTON.

At the suppression of monasteries, Felly-priory, in the vicinity of Annesley, with the messuages, houses, orchards, gardens, &c. thereunto belonging, besides forty and a half acres of arable land, twenty of meadow, and three hundred and fifty-six of pasture, with the appurtenances in Felly and Annesley, Felly mill, &c. were granted by Henry the Eighth, to William Bolles and Lucy his wife, at the annual rent of £17 3s. And James the First, in the 7th of his reign, granted the reversion of this property to Anthony Millington and his heirs, which property descended to Gilbert Millington, the subject of this memoir, who, from his acting a conspicuous part in the interest of Nottingham during the time of Charles the First, merits notice here. This gentleman bought an estate at Brinsley, in this neighbourhood, of Gervase Brendesley in the early part of the seventeenth century, which estate had been in the last named family from the time of William the First. Mr. Millington was chosen to represent Nottingham in parliament in the years 1640, and 1646, and the most conspicuous part he performed in that capacity, was that of sitting as one of the judges at the trial, and signing the death warrant of Charles the First. He was one of those mistaken and unfortunate gentlemen that surrendered to the mercy of Charles the Second, after having been excepted from capital punishment by proclamation; and who, to use Mrs. Hutchinson's words, "were now given up to trial, both for their lives and estates, and put into close prison, where they were miserably kept, brought shortly after to trial, condemned, all their estates confiscated and taken away, themselves kept in miserable bondage under that inhuman bloody jailor the lieutenant of the Tower, who stifled some of them to death for want of air; and when they had not one penny, but what was given them to feed themselves and their families, enacted abominable rates for bare unfinished prisons; of some forty pounds for one miserable chamber, of others double, besides undue and unjust fees, which their poor wives were forced to beg and engage their jointures and make miserable shifts for: and yet this rogue had all this while three

“ pounds a week paid out of the Exchequer for every one of them. At last, when this would not  
 “ kill them fast enough, and when some alms were privately stolen into them, they were sent away  
 “ to remote and dismal islands, where relief could not reach them, nor any of their relations take  
 “ care of them!” “ *And these,*” continues she, “ *are the tender mercies of the wicked !* Among  
 “ which I cannot forget one passage that I saw. Monk and his wife, before they (the prisoners)  
 “ were moved to the Tower, while they were yet prisoners at Lamberth-house, came one evening  
 “ to the garden, and caused them to be brought down, only to stare at them. Which was such a  
 “ barbarism for that man, who had betrayed so many poor men to death and misery, that never  
 “ hurt him, but had honored him, and trusted their lives and interests with him, to glut his bloody  
 “ eyes with beholding them in their bondage, as no story can parallel the inhumanity of.”\*

Whether Mr. Millington was one of the unfortunate objects of Monk's insulting curiosity we are not told ; but certain it is, that, after his pardon had been granted, he was one of the victims sacrificed to the tyrant's fury.†

### ROBERT THOROTON, M. D.

This gentleman was born in 1622, and was a native of this county, his family having resided during several centuries at the villages of Thoroton, Screveton, and Car-Colston. After having passed through the usual course of education, and had taken up his degrees at one of the Universities, he settled and practised in his native county, where, at Car-Colston, he erected a family residence. He married Anne, daughter of Gilbert Boun, serjeant-at-law, of Hockerton, near Southwell, by whom he had two daughters, Anne, and Elizabeth ; the former was married to Philip Sherard, second son of the second Earl of Harborough. Elizabeth was married to John Turner of Swanwick, Esq. Derbyshire ; and, in 1740, when in the 86th year of her age, she erected a school in the said village, for the instruction of twenty poor children, and endowed it with five hundred pounds.

The Doctor was a great stickler for the arbitrary proceedings of Charles the First ; and was therefore constituted commissioner for the royal *aids* and *subsidies*, and a magistrate for the county of Nottingham. His father-in-law, serjeant Boun, had been at great expense and labour in collecting materials for a history of Nottinghamshire ; but had not properly arranged them for the press. These fell into the hands of the Doctor, and he very soon set about completing them for the public. For this purpose he visited almost every town and village in the county, searching every parish register and family record within his reach. When he had given the utmost perfection in his power to this arduous undertaking, he dedicated his work to Sir William Dugdale, and sent it from the press in 1677. But though he lived to see his labours meet a favorable

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\* This double traitor, this inhuman monster, who could thus feast his savage eyes upon, and indulge the *delicacy* of his wife with the sight of the sufferings of those men, with whom he had been proud to act, and by whose ill-placed favor he had been raised to eminence in command, sought to bury his odious name and traitorous deeds in the title of *Earl of Albermarle*. But he was mistaken ; for the name of *Monk*, and those of *monster* and *traitor* will be linked together to the end of time.

† Mr. Millington left a son Edward, whose son, Gilbert, died in 1703, leaving, *Althea*, an only daughter, who married Charles Savile of Methley, Yorkshire, Esq. from whom are descended the present noble family of Mexborough.



reception from the public, he did not long enjoy the pleasures thereof; for, the register of Car-Colston informs us, that he was buried on the 23d of November, 1678. His History contains the best list of genealogies, of this, or perhaps of any other county ever written; and, of course, will ever be held in high estimation by antiquaries, as a work of curiosity; and by the attorneys of the county and its vicinity as an article of utility.

His estate at Car-Colston went, by the marriage of his elder daughter, into the family of Sherards.

### CHARLES DEERING, M. D.

Of the family or country of this gentleman we know nothing, except as tradition informs us, that he was a native of Germany; and his education proves him to have been the offspring of, or fostered by highly respectable connections. On this subject it would be enough to say, that he was often heard to exclaim, with apparent feelings of poignancy, "Every petty school-master can maintain himself in comfort, which I am unable to do, *though master of nine languages.*"

He took up his degrees as Doctor of Medicine, at Leyden, in Holland, the seal and diploma of which were affixed by Mr. Ayscough, printer, to a copy of his *catalogue of plants growing about Nottingham*. Soon after his arrival in London he was appointed secretary to the British embassy to the court of Russia. On his return from Russia he married, in London, as we are informed, and shortly afterwards came and settled in Nottingham as a regular practitioner, where he met with due encouragement. But his domestic felicity was of short duration, as his wife died soon after; and he again became a stranger in a foreign land, without a family companion to partake of his enjoyments, or, what is of ten times more consequence, *to share and ease the troubles of his mind*.—A woman partaking largely of the latter virtue is of more value to a man possessing refinement of soul, than are the mines of Potosi or Golconda—without it she is little better than a pest! Whether the loss of his wife wrought deeply upon his mind, or from whatsoever cause the effect might arise, (but, from a feeling of the most unaffected sympathy, I am willing to attribute the cause to the loss of his partner,) certain it is that his temper became so remarkably sour, as to cause alienation of almost every spark of attachment towards him; and the capriciousness of his palate made him very frequently find fault with the fare of the table at which he boarded, or to which he was casually invited. Or, at least, these are the reasons which tradition has assigned for the desertion of Deering by many of those that had previously espoused him as a friend.

Thus deserted, and reduced to almost the last stage of poverty, he applied to John Plumptre, Esq. of Plumptre-house, for assistance to enable him to write a History of Nottingham; and in that gentleman he found both a friend and a patron, for he not only countenanced the undertaking, but furnished the principal materials for the compilation of his Antiquities. But as the completion of this work required much time and industry, and a minuter inquiry and closer attention than suited the turn of Deering's mind, he died of poverty and a broken heart before it was finished, on the 25th of February, 1749, in a chamber over a shop on the south side of St. Peter's-square, lately occupied by Mr. Smith, hatter and hairdresser. This will account for the unfinished and interpolated state in which many of his articles appear; and for the work itself not



possessing the advantage of an index. The interpolations in pages 84 and 85 of the *Antiquities* have brought the laugh upon Deering from many a man, whose understanding soared above the ridiculous belief in ghosts and hobgoblins; but from the obloquy cast upon our author, on this account, I am happy in having it in my power to rescue his character. The tales alluded to relate, that Langford Collin, Esq. who, resided at York in 1727, heard the ghost of his cousin, Thomas Smith, Esq. of Nottingham, strike his door as “with a great sledge-hammer” three times, (a ghost’s number) just at the moment the said Mr. Smith expired in London. And, on another occasion, Mr. Collin heard his brother’s ghost hard at work making a coffin for its own body, *just twelve hours* before such brother drew his expiring breath. Now I have a note before me in the hand writing of Mr. Ayscough, printer of Deering’s posthumous *Antiquities*, of which we are now speaking, which note relates to the ridiculous subject in question, and says, “Langford Collin, Esq. *insisted* I should print this account, *or he would resent it*; because, he said, it was absolutely “true, and ought to be known.” Thus has the character of a poor and friendless author been sported with nearly seventy years, because it was dishonestly made a shield of to cover the childish follies and interpolations of men, that had not sufficient generosity to relieve him when living; or to do him justice when dead.

Our author was so poor when he died, that his effects would not furnish the means for his interment, which induced the corporation, as a public body, to offer their services to pay this last tribute to departed talents; but Mr. Ayscough, just named, and Mr. Thomas Willington, druggist, to whom Deering was a little indebted, administered to his effects, seized upon his manuscript, and buried him in St. Peter’s-church-yard; but their generosity could not afford a tombstone or slab to point out the particular spot of his interment. These two gentlemen published his *Antiquities of Nottingham* in 1751, being at the expense of all the plates, except the view of Plumtre-house, which was given by the owner of that mansion.

The following circumstance will enable the reader to form a pretty correct notion of the disposition of Deering’s mind, even under the rod of affliction:—A lady of the name of Turner\* passing through the town, and hearing of the doctor’s indisposition and his poverty also, she paid him a visit at his lodgings, and, after conversing with him some time, left him half-a-guinea by the mistress of the house; and, when the latter presented it, and told him whence it came, he exclaimed, “*If you had stabbed me to the heart, I should have thanked you; but this I cannot bear!*” We will conclude these few remarks with the relation of two circumstances which occurred while our author was in good health. A short time before his last illness, a few friends presented him with an electrical machine, under a hope of thereby furnishing him with the means of subsistence.—And with the same laudable view a commission was obtained for him in a foot regiment, that was raised in and about Nottingham to oppose the rebels in 1745; but on these, and several other occasions he expressed himself to this effect:—*All my helps injure me, as they are attended with more cost than profit.* At the close of the rebellion he wrote an account in Latin of the achievements of the Duke of Kingston’s light horse, which is placed over the entrance into the

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\* It is fair to presume, that this was Mrs. Turner of Swanwick, daughter to Dr. Thoroton.

grand jury room in our County-hall, His publications, besides his *Antiquities of Nottingham*, which he wrote while in this town, were, *An Account of an Impartial Method of treating the Small-pox*; and *A Catalogue of Plants growing about Nottingham*; the former was printed in 1737, and the latter in 1738.

From feelings of respect to the talents of our author; but more particularly to the misfortunes which long attended his progress in life, and, in the end, bore him to the grave, I am desirous of attributing the errors in his *Antiquities* to the clouds which surrounded him; and to the base interpolations and perhaps erasures after his death. The *latter* misfortune I have the prospect of escaping; but, as to the *former*, I shall leave it to the man, that may think it worth his while, if any one should do so, who writes a few anecdotes of my life.

### JOHN THROSBY

Was a native of Leicester, of which place, Nicholas Throsby, his father, was mayor in 1759.—John, the subject of these few observations, was born about the year 1737, and died in 1803. He was many years parish clerk of St. Martin's, Leicester; and the only reason for noticing him here, is his re-publishing Thoroton's *History of Nottinghamshire*, and a volume of extracts from Deering's *Antiquities of Nottingham*, with continuations of his own: the observations made upon his writings in the course of this history, in his capacity of a continuator of Deering, shall form my only commentary thereon—the subject deserves no more!

In early life Mr. Throsby enjoyed a considerable share of what the common voice of mankind pronounces *happiness*; but, having a numerous offspring to provide for, and his means being inadequate to meet the end, according to his wishes, he had recourse to his pen, hoping thereby to find the necessary means of supply. This plan, however, instead of relieving him from his embarrassments, only added to their number and magnitude; for the sale of his publications, which, principally, were very expensive to him, was extremely confined. The reason is very plain; for nature, in the formation of his intellectual faculties, placed a barrier against his advancement in literary fame.

As a copyist, to the best of my knowledge, he is correct, as he would sooner preserve an error in the original, than seek to correct it. As an original writer, he is replete with errors; his ideas are vague; and his language either offensive or servile, and generally inelegant. In his writings, as a christian, he is uncharitable; and, as a politician, he was such a bigot to the high church party, that even the tory corporation of Leicester laughed him to scorn. When a man over acts an improper part, his conduct alike displays a want of knowledge, and a dereliction of principle.—His works are, independent of his re-publication of Thoroton and Deering, first, *History of Leicestershire*, six volumes, duodecimo. Secondly, *History of Leicester*, one volume, quarto; and thirdly, *Select Views of Leicestershire*, with descriptions and historical relations, two volumes, quarto.

### THE REV. ANDREW KIPPIS, D. D.

This highly respectable and learned divine was born at Nottingham, on the 28th of March, 1725. Both by the father's and mother's side he was descended from ejected ministers. His

father, Robert Kippis, was one of those, that, in the infant state of the framework-knitting business, obtained a competency by selling the stockings which he manufactured, which avocation has long been distinguished by the appellation of *hosier*. This gentleman died when his son was only five years of age, which caused the latter to be placed under the care of his grandfather, Andrew Kippis, of Sleaford, in Lincolnshire, who died 1748, at the advanced age of 84. At an early age considerable pains were taken to instil the principles of Calvinism into the expanding mind of young Kippis; but the very means employed to ensure success had a contrary effect, as he himself observes, in the fourth volume of the *Biographia Britannica*, when speaking of Elisha Cole's treatise on the sovereignty of God. These are his words:—"The author stated the objections to his opinions concerning absolute election, reprobation, and other points, and endeavoured to remove them; but to me his objections appeared stronger than his answers: so that I owe to Cole on God's Sovereignty my first renunciation of Calvinism."

Young Kippis received the rudiments of his education at Sleaford, and made such a rapid progress in his studies, as to excite the particular attention of the learned Mr. Merrivale, minister of a dissenting congregation at that place; and it was chiefly owing to this gentleman, that his attention was directed to those studies which are necessary qualifications in a minister of the gospel; but the task of giving completion to these studies was reserved for the great Dr. Doddridge to perform. In 1741, the rising student was placed under the care of that eminent divine, at the academy for the education of Protestant dissenting ministers at Northampton. At the close of Doddridge's life, in the *Biographia Britannica*, Dr. Kippis observes, "I esteem it no small felicity of my life, that I have been preserved to give this testimony of duty, gratitude, and affection, to the memory of my benefactor, my tutor, my friend, and my father."

When Mr. Kippis had been five years at Northampton, he received invitations to undertake the pastoral duties of two dissenting congregations, one at Dorchester, and the other at Boston, in Lincolnshire: he preferred the latter, and entered upon his important functions in September, 1746, being then in his 22d year; a proof of the fame of his education, and of his early piety. In four years afterwards he was preferred to the head of a congregation, at Dorking in Surry; and in 1753, on the death of Dr. Obadiah Hughes, he was chosen pastor of the congregation in Prince's-street, Westminster, in his stead; in which situation he continued till the day of his death. In the last named year he married Miss Elizabeth Bott, daughter of a respectable inhabitant of Boston, who survived him a short time.

The extensive learning, profound genius, and highly polished manners of Mr. Kippis, soon procured him a large circle of literary connections in the metropolis; and, in proportion as the trumpet of his fame was heard to sound, his congregation increased, by whom he was equally admired and beloved. His first publication appears to have been a sermon on the advantages of religious knowledge, which he preached, for the benefit of the school, in St. Thomas's meeting-house, Gravel-lane, Southwark, in 1756. The following year he published a discourse, containing a concise account of the doctrine of the New Testament, concerning the Lord's supper, which went through several editions. Soon after the commencement of the *Monthly Review*, he became a writer for that literary publication, and continued to enrich its columns many years. In 1761, a

periodical publication was commenced, entitled, "The Literary, or Moral and Critical Magazine," in the composition of which Mr. Kippis took a considerable share. This work, however, did not meet a sufficiency of public patronage to justify its continuance; it was therefore given up in about eighteen months from its commencement; and Mr. Kippis re-published his labours therein, with additions, in the New Annual Register.

In 1762, Mr. Kippis was chosen to succeed Dr. Benson as trustee to Dr. Daniel Williams's library in Red Cross-street, London: the latter gentleman died in 1716, after having founded this library, and willed a considerable portion of his estate to various charitable purposes, under the direction of trustees. The celebrated Dr. Rees, when speaking of this appointment of Mr. Kippis, observes, "This appointment afforded him an additional opportunity of being eminently and extensively useful in a variety of respects. His connections with the general body of Protestant dissenting ministers belonging to the cities of London and Westminster, and with many charitable institutions, which the liberality of dissenters has established, gave him frequent occasions to exercise his talents for the honor and interest of the cause to which, both by his sentiments and profession, he was zealously attached.\*

On the death of Dr. Jennings, in 1763, Mr. Kippis was elected classical and philological tutor to the academical institution for the educating of dissenting ministers in London, supported by the funds of William Coward, Esq. In 1766, he published an introductory discourse, which he delivered at the ordination of the Rev. Samuel Witton; and the year following the University of Edinburgh conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1769, he published a sermon on the character of Jesus Christ, in his capacity of a public speaker, which he preached at Bridport, in Dorsetshire, at the ordination of Mr. George Waters and Mr. William Youat. The same year he published the funeral sermon of Mr. Timothy Laughner, minister of the dissenting congregation at Hackney, who was succeeded by Dr. Price. Mr. Laughner had been the intimate friend of Dr. Kippis, who expresses himself thus on that occasion, "I have been connected with him, in close and endearing friendship, between twenty and thirty years; I have shared every secret of his heart, and been acquainted with almost every transaction of his life; I have seen him in the unguarded moments of youth, and in the various situations of riper age; and, with this knowledge of him, I can assert, that he hath always appeared to me to be animated by a genuine, fervent, and uncorrupted principle of piety, integrity, honor, and benevolence."

In 1773, Dr. Kippis published "A Vindication of the Protestant Dissenting Ministers, with regard to their late application to parliament." This application was intended to remove the obligations dissenting ministers were under; for as the law then stood, they were enjoined to subscribe to the greater part of the articles of the established church. In this pamphlet, the Dr. says, "Religion, in every form of it which is consistent with the safety of the state, has an unlimited title to indulgence. *I do not, therefore, think that liberty of conscience ought to be confined to christianity.* I am of opinion, that the magistrate hath no right to interpose in religious matters, so as to lay any restraint upon, or to prescribe any test to, those who behave as

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\* See Funeral Sermon, page 27.

“peaceable subjects.” And towards the close of the pamphlet he says, “When biography shall relate, in future ages, the learned labours, and the eminent virtues of some of the present bench of bishops, she will at the same time record it with surprise and shame, as a strange inconsistency with their great abilities, and an astonishing blot in their characters, that they were capable of pleading for the continuance of laws which are repugnant to every dictate of wisdom, every precept of the gospel, and every sentiment of humanity.”

The celebrated Dean Tucker took up the pen against him on this subject; and at the same time that he controverted his positions, he admitted him to be *an able advocate, an honest man, and a candid and impartial researcher after truth*. And it may here be added, to the honor of Dr. Kippis, and the town which gave him birth, that he laboured not in vain; for, a few years afterwards, *prejudice* gave way to *reason*, and an act was passed for the relief of dissenting ministers in the matter of subscription.

In 1777, the Doctor undertook to edit a new edition of the *Biographia Britannica*, which work engaged much of his time and attention, and which he was extremely solicitous of rendering truly valuable. His liberal ideas on this subject are found in the preface to the first volume, where he says, “We mean to rise above narrow prejudices, and to record with fidelity and freedom, the virtues and vices, the excellencies and defects, of men of every profession and party. A work of this nature would be deprived of much of its utility, if it were not carried on with philosophical liberality of mind. But we apprehend, that a philosophical liberality of mind, whilst we do full justice to the merits of those from whom we differ, either in religious or political opinions, doth not imply in it our having no sentiments of our own. We scruple not to declare our attachment to the great interests of mankind; and our enmity to bigotry, superstition, and tyranny, whether found in Papists, Protestants, Whigs, or Tories, Churchmen, or Dissenters.” This conduct is the certain result, and is truly worthy of a great mind!

When the Doctor had been engaged some time in this great work, he found the task too heavy for his exertions; and Dr. Towers was therefore selected as his fellow labourer. All the new articles and the additions to old ones, written by Dr. Kippis, were subscribed by the letter K. and those from the pen of Dr. Towers had the letter T. affixed to them. In 1783, our illustrious divine published, “*Considerations on the Provisional Treaty with America, and the Preliminary Articles of Peace with France and Spain*.” And, in the same year also “*Six Discourses*,” delivered by Sir John Pringle, Bart. to the Royal Society, on account of six annual assignments of Sir Godfrey Copley’s Medal; to which was prefixed the life of the author. The Doctor had lived on very friendly terms with Sir John Pringle, who frequently added to the number of his congregation. On the 26th of April, 1786, he preached a sermon for the encouragement of a new academical institution for the education of Protestant dissenting ministers. From an anxious solicitude to give stability and celebrity to this institution, the Doctor became its principal preceptor; but, for reasons unknown to the writer hereof, he declined this office; and, shortly afterwards, the institution died away. As a tutor, Dr. Rees speaks of him thus:—“His lectures, and his general conduct, conciliated the esteem, and promoted the improvement of his pupils. They all honored and loved him: for he had a happy talent of attaching their attention and respect,” In 1788, he

published the life of our celebrated and unfortunate circumnavigator, Captain James Cook ; and the same year also the life of Dr. Nathaniel Lardner, though the latter was done with the express disapprobation of Mr. David Jennings, grand-nephew to Dr. Lardner, and Dr. Dickens, prebendary of Durham, who had married a niece of Dr. Lardner's. The rodomontade of these two gentlemen had no other effect upon our author, than to induce him to expose their nonsense to the world, and to give additional celebrity to the publication. In 1791, he published a volume of sermons ; and, the same year, a funeral oration, delivered at the interment of the justly celebrated Dr. Price. He likewise made many valuable additions to the lectures of Dr. Doddridge on ethics and pneumatology, or the doctrine of spiritual existence.

Dr. Kippis was equally a friend to civil and religious liberty, a fact which manifests itself in his writings, and which receives great illustration from his having been a member of the Society for Constitutional Information—of the Society of the Friends of the People ; and of the Revolution Society ; before the latter of which he preached a sermon on the anniversary of that memorable event in 1788, which was afterwards published. The Doctor wrote the preface to *Edwin and Eltruda*, a legendary tale by Miss Helen Maria Williams, whose character, for sentimental literature, stood so very high, until she blasted it by her subsequent apostacy in supporting arbitrary power ; when the full tide of fortune set in against the rights of mankind, in the advocating of which she had acquired universal fame.\* This, since versatile lady, was at Paris when Dr. Kippis breathed his last, in the full bloom of literary glory, a misfortune which happened rather unexpectedly, on the 8th of October, 1795, and to whose memory she wrote an elegant poem, from which are copied the following lines :—

“ For him, his country twines her civic palm,  
 “ And learning's tears his honored name embalm ;  
 “ His were the lavish stores, her force sublime,  
 “ Thro' every passing age has snatch'd from time ;  
 “ His the historian's wreath, the critic's art,  
 “ A rigid judgment, but a feeling heart ;  
 “ His the warm purpose for the general weal,  
 “ The christian's meekness, and the christian's zeal ;  
 “ And his the moral worth, to which is given  
 “ Earth's purest homage, and the meed of heaven.”†

### **GILBERT WAKEFIELD, B. A.**

Had not ample justice been done to the memory of this giant in classical literature, so as to place the relation thereof within the reach of the generality of readers, the author would have felt himself in duty bound to have overstept the limits, naturally prescribed in local history to biographical labours ; the gentleman we are speaking of being one of those transcending luminaries, that the Almighty, in the plenitude of his wisdom, sometimes favors the world with for a season, for the purpose of unfolding to mankind the obtruse operations of nature ; and to instruct them by

\* It is now publicly stated, that this woman was in the pay of the British ministry as a spy upon the French government, during the last six or eight years of Napoleon's imperial authority. This accounts for her apostacy !

† In sketching the life of Dr. Kippis, the author has received much aid from *Phillip's Necrology*.

example how to suffer honorably in the cause of violated virtue, honor, liberty, and truth. But, as the subject has been so ably handled by Mr. Wakefield himself, and by the editors of the second edition of his life, I shall content myself with merely sketching an outline of the life of this great and extraordinary man.

Mr. Wakefield was born on the 22d of February, 1756, in the parsonage-house of St. Nicholas's, Nottingham, of which parish his father was rector; and he died, while his faculties were still in their bloom, at Hackney, the 9th of September, 1801. His father, by the mother's side, was connected in blood with the celebrated family of *Russels*, and the great lawyer, Sir Edward Coke. His mother was of an ancient Nottingham family, and her grandfather, Mr. William Barke, was an eminent tanner in Narrow-marsh, and was mayor of this town in 1704, and 1712.

Our hero was sent very early to school to an old lady in this town; and, when little more than three years old, he gave astonishing proofs of a strong and superior mind. He was next placed under the care of the Rev. Samuel Beardmore, at the Free-School, Stoney-street, whence, at the age of nine, he was removed to a school at Wilford, kept by the Rev. Isaac Pickthall. In 1767, his father obtained the vicarage of Kingston-upon-Thames, which parish, in two years after, comprehending its dependent chapels of Richmond, Moulsey, Thames Ditton, Petersham, and Kew, was divided by act of parliament into two vicarages and two perpetual curacies.\* At Richmond, our young hero was placed under the tuition of his father's curate, whom, in his writings, he stigmatizes as a "pedagogical Jehu," and concludes, that, under these successive teachers, he literally learnt nothing; but this neglect, or want of ability, in his tutors, was amply compensated by the exemplary care of an excellent mother, the strength of his own mind, and the intuitiveness of his talents. At the age of thirteen, we find him under the tuition of the Rev. Richard Wooddeson, at Kingston, who was preceptor to many other literary characters, particularly Mr. Lovybond, a writer for the *World*, Mr. Stevens the editor of *Shakespeare*, Mr. Keate, author of *Sketches of Nature, Poems, &c.* Mr. Gibbon, the historian, Mr. Harley, the poet, &c. We next find Mr. Wakefield at Cambridge, where, in 1772, he was entered of Jesus College; and, in 1776, he took the degree of Bachelor of Arts, soon after which he was elected a fellow of the said College. The same year he published, at the University press a collection of Latin Poems, partly originals and partly translations, with critical notes on Horace by way of appendix. In 1778, he was ordained deacon by Dr. Hinchliffe, bishop of Peterborough; but was afterwards so dissatisfied with the nature of church subscription, that he stigmatized his acceptance of the last named dignity as the most disingenuous act of his life. He soon after left the University, and entered upon the curacy of Stockport, in Cheshire, under the Rev. John Watson, whose brother's daughter he afterwards married; but he did not long remain here, as a few months subsequently, we find him at Richmond decidedly averse to the renewal of subscription, and embarrassed at the idea of ecclesiastical functions. It is worthy of remark, that the great Milton left the same University under similar embarrassments, and adopted the same resolution; and who said on the occasion, "Whoever becomes a clergyman, must subscribe *slave*."

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\* See Capper.

Disappointment in other pursuits induced Mr. Wakefield to accept of the curacy of St. Peter's, Liverpool; and, in March, 1779, he vacated his fellowship by marriage; about which time he shifted to the curacy of St. Paul's, in the same place, under an idea of establishing a day school; but was diverted from that object by an offer of the tutorship of the classical department at Warrington academy, Lancashire, whither he removed in August following. In addition to the labours attendant on the academy, he set about perfecting himself in the Hebrew, the Syriac, the Chaldee, the Samaritan, the Syro-Chaldaic, the Ethiopic, the Arabic, the Persic, and Coptic languages; being already, as the reader may suppose, in possession of the Greek and Latin, and modern European tongues. Feeling himself now fully at liberty from clerical obligations, or restraints, he commenced his career in theological controversy, during the course of which, in the opinion of many of his friends, he displayed an improvident degree of warmth, which sometimes gave his opponents a shew of triumph, that his mighty genius would never have permitted, had it been directed by a more moderate temperature of the passions. He continued, after this time, to publish the various productions of his pen, the most important of which are, *A New Translation of the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Thessalonians*, and, *A New Translation of St. Matthew's Gospel*, with notes. These he published while at Warrington; but, on the dissolution of that academy in 1783, he removed to Bramcote, four miles from Nottingham; at all of which places his object was to support his family by the instruction of pupils. While thus employed he published *An Inquiry into the opinions of the Christian Writers of the three first centuries, concerning the person of Jesus Christ*, with an intention of a continuance of the same subject; but, his first volume not meeting with the expected success, he proceeded no further in the work. In 1786, Mr. Wakefield was seized with a violent spasmodic affection in one of his shoulders, the acuteness of which, during two years, deprived him of the balmy comfort of sleep, except as that kind dispeller of our cares was called to his aid by the soporific power of opiates. But an active genius, that lights its way into life by the aid of that internal fire, which man has not in his power to bestow, is not very soon to be subdued by those diseases which lay the rest of mankind helpless on their beds; therefore Mr. Wakefield, during this severe affliction, wrote "Remarks" on the poems of Gray, and prepared a new translation of *Virgil's Georgics*. In 1789, he began a work called *Silva Critica*, the first part of which was published at the University press of Cambridge. And, on the opening of the new College at Hackney, he was chosen classical instructor; and left Nottingham in the summer of 1790, to enter on his new functions; but he left the institution in June the following year, and it did not long survive his loss. He now wholly employed himself as a man of letters, and in the education of his own children. His *Translation of the New Testament, with notes*, now made its appearance; and soon afterwards two more parts of his *Silva Critica*. These were followed by another edition of the *Translation of the New Testament enlarged*, and his reply to Mr. Paine's Age of Reason, entitled *Evidence on the Christian Religion*. This was followed by the first volume of *The Works of Alexander Pope, Esq. with remarks and illustrations*:—The softly flowing versification of this *Nightingale of the Muses*, as well in his original works, as in his translation of Homer, has erected a monument to his memory in the breasts of the literati, which will hold duration with time itself. Mr. Wakefield



edited some selections from the Greek tragedians, and editions of Horace, Virgil, Bion, Moschus, and Lucretius, with many other occasional publications.

Our author had now arrived at the highest pinnacle of literary fame; and by arraigning the justice of the slave trade and the war against France, he had procured for himself a considerable number of enemies, particularly among those classes that possess the greatest means of gratifying the hateful propensity for revenge. Mr. Wakefield had described Mr. Pitt, the leading state minister of the day, as *the minister of darkness*; and Mr. Wilherforce, who always professed to propose his measures in parliament, whether of peace or war, in the spirit of religion, as *a politico-theological satyr, who at one time blew the breath of emancipation upon the scorched back of the African, and at another the pestilential breath of war, which blasted the spring from the year, by destroying the youth of Europe with the sword*. In 1798, Mr. Wakefield furnished his enemies with the means of obtaining revenge. Dr. Watson, bishop of Landaff, who, as a man of letters and as an eminent divine, in early life had ranged himself on the side of the people, had now taken up the pen against popular rights, inasmuch as he attempted to justify the war against the then ripening liberties of France, in a pamphlet, addressed to the people of Great Britain; and, what is not the less singular than true, Mr. Wakefield had an answer to it in the printer's hands twenty-four hours after he had read it; and, as he read it as soon as a copy could be obtained, the *bane* and *antidote* would therefore have an opportunity of circulating together.—Two convictions, upon the printer and publisher of Mr. Wakefield's pamphlet, soon followed its publication, the expenses of which he had too much honor to permit them to bear; and a prosecution was shortly afterwards commenced against himself, as the author.—Conviction followed, almost, *as a matter of course*; and, on the 18th of April, 1799, he was brought up to the court of King's Bench, Westminster, to receive judgment. This, however, from motives which are clearly inferrible, was put off until the next term, during which interval of time he was confined in the King's Bench prison, and was charged the *moderate sum of fifty pounds* for his accommodation therein in a single room. In the end, his sentence was, That he be confined in the gaol of Dorchester for the space of two years; and, at the end of that time, to give security, in the sum of £500 himself for his good behaviour during five years, and two others in the sum of £250 each. His own distinguished merit, and the severity of his sentence, caused sympathy to step forwards to the aid of his slender income; and the sum of five thousand pounds (in the raising of which his native town took a part) was speedily advanced, and was settled upon him as an annuity. And, in November following, Michael Dodson, nephew to the great Judge Foster, bequeathed him five hundred pounds. How consoling to the wounded heart are these drops of balsamic juice, which exude spontaneously from the uncorrupted tree of patriotic admiration and gratitude!

On the 4th of June, 1801, Mr. Wakefield left his dreary cell at Dorchester, where the iron hand of relentless severity had been his constant attendant, and returned with his family to Hackney.—But, though he came out in apparent good health, he did not long enjoy the sweets of liberty; for his confinement had engrafted a complaint upon his constitution, which brought him to the grave in about three months; thus gratifying the most savage wish of his persecutors; and robbing the

world of its brightest classical ornament, and of the embryo fruit of his refined studies, which time cannot restore.

The author fancies he cannot conclude this sketch better, than in the words of one of Mr. Wakefield's friends, and doubts not but the sentiments therein so honorably expressed, will be admitted by every candid mind to be correct:—"His talents were rare—his morals pure—his virtues exalted—his courage invincible; and his integrity without spot."

His brother, Francis Wakefield, gent. of this town, has long been distinguished for the liberality of his sentiments, as well political as religious; for the suavity of his manners; for his conciliatory powers in reconciling jarring interests; and for generally standing in the foremost list of those that promote and support public charities.

### *PAUL SANDBY.*

Having endeavoured to do justice to the character of Nottingham's renowned warrior, statesman, and patriot, whose memory and merits were rescued by accident from the obscurity in which prejudice had involved them—to the memory and merits of her own and her county's historian, one of whom stands unsurpassed for his industry in local research, and the other for his misfortunes as an author—having endeavoured to unfold, with epitometic brevity, the mighty genius and profound erudition of her scholars, the pride of her name, the admiration of the country, and the ornaments of the world's literati; having done thus much, it remains to say a few words on another of her sons, whose name stands as high in the fine arts, as does her Wakefield's in polite and classical literature.

Thomas Sandby, the father of the subject of these memoirs, was a native of, or sprang from a branch of a family of Sandbys at the small village of Babworth in the vicinity of Retford in this county; but whether he was born in Nottingham, or came here to reside in early life, seems not now easy of ascertainment; nor is the question of any importance. Nor have we any knowledge of his avocation in life, except that he has left undoubted proof behind him, that he was no novice in the art of drawing, as several plates in Deering's Antiquities, which are by far the best, bear his name as draughtsman, particularly the east prospect of the town, which is dated 1741; and, very probably he was dead before the publication of the Antiquities, as most of the other plates are from very inferior designs, and are dated in 1750.

Paul Sandby was born in Nottingham in the year 1732; and, in 1746, we find him making his way into the Tower of London, by means of the notice which had been taken of him by those who had the superintendence of the various drawings therein kept. Probably his father had died about this time, from whom having obtained a slight knowledge of the art of drawing, and, probably, from being a younger child, and lusting after that art, in which he might have no prospect of obtaining a proficiency at home, he might thus make a bold effort *to seek his fortune* in London, as many other geniuses have done, without any calculation as to consequences of disappointment and distress. Be this as it may, our young hero had sufficient address, doubtless from a display of precocious talent, to obtain a subsistence in the Tower; and, when he had been there about two

years, his Royal Highness William, Duke of Cumberland, who had previously taken a *cursory view* of Scotland, thought proper to have an *actual survey* made of the Highlands, and young Sandby was appointed draughtsman, under the inspection of Mr. David Watson, a North Briton of talent, who, in 1747, had also sought his fortune in London. With this gentleman young Sandby leisurely viewed the bold and romantic objects in the northern and western parts of Scotland, and made many sketches from the stupendous and terrific scenery with which they abound.\* Here he saw nature in her wildest and most fantastic mood; and, the advantage and strength of imagination with which he inspected the delectable scenery, added much to that power, which he so eminently possessed, of delineating those broad and striking masses of light and shade, which have distinguished all his productions. These drawings, excellent as they were, when his juvenility is taken into the account, could be considered only as the amusements of a precocious mind, during the hours of relaxation; for drawing of plans abounding in straight lines, was the ostensible object of his tour; and so dry and uninteresting a study being neither congenial with his refined taste, nor worthy of his superior talents, he in 1752, quitted the service of the survey, and went to reside with his brother, Mr. Thomas Sandby, at Windsor, of whom we shall speak hereafter. During his residence here, he took more than seventy views of Windsor and Eton; scenes which afforded such ample scope to his powers. This exercise of his genius unfolded his taste for that beautiful style of architecture denominated Gothic; and the superior manner in which he treated it, gave so picturesque an effect to these landscapes, that Sir Joseph Banks purchased them at a very liberal price. Mr. Sandby, soon after, had the honor of being one of a party that made a tour with this gentleman through north and south Wales, where he made a great number of sketches from remarkable scenes, such as castles, gentlemen's seats, &c. under the patronage of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne. He afterwards took many more views from scenes in the same romantic country, which, with the choicest of those he had previously taken, he transferred to copper-plates, and made several sets of prints in imitation of drawings in *bister*.—It has been said in the social circles of the Hon. Charles Greville, that that gentleman gave Sandby the first hint of this art; but, be this as it may, certain it is, that he carried the captivating art of *aquatinta* to a degree of perfection never before known in this or any other country. An article which conveyed an account of his death to the public had these words:—"He was the father of modern landscape painting in water-colours, which he carried as far as that kind of painting could, or, with propriety, ought to be carried. He was also the father and protector of merit wherever it was found."

On the institution of the Royal Society of Arts, in 1768, Mr. Sandby was chosen royal academician; and, the same year, at the recommendation of the Duke of Grafton, he was appointed drawing master of the Royal Academy at Woolwich, which situation he held, with credit to himself and advantage to the institution to the day of his death, in November, 1809.

The features which distinguish the works of every eminent landscape painter, necessarily must

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\* From these few lines of a bold and original genius our young draughtsman made a number of etchings, which, on his return to London, he to Messrs. Ryland and Bryce, who published them in a folio volume.

receive a strong tincture from the place where he made his early studies ; hence it is fair to conclude, though our hero left Nottingham at an early age, that the bold, the romantic, and constantly beautiful and diversified scenery which surrounds it, made those happy impressions upon his mind, which he afterwards so much improved, to the honor of his country and the fame of the arts. In the pictures of the celebrated Watteau, the self-taught French artist, there is much to admire ; but as he framed his taste from viewing the gardens of the Thuilleries and the regularly clipped hedges, or rather green walls about the villas, which, at that time surrounded the French metropolis, he has sometimes given us nature in a masquerade habit ; which most certainly would not have been the case, had the early impressions been made upon his mind in Switzerland, or the country of the Grisons ; but, being a native of Valenciennes, where little else than an uniform flatness in the landscape is to be seen ; and proceeding to Paris in quest of patronage, in the surrounding scenery of which, *art* has been so profuse in giving variety to a long sameness in the works of *nature*, that Watteau's early impressions, and, consequently, his future labours, bore evident marks of a similarity ; therefore, in order to give the necessary diversity to his paintings, he was sometimes driven to an imitation of the would-be fashionable *belles* in their dress: *he was necessitated to make the robing subservient to a display of nature's shapes.*

But with what a contrast are we presented in the works of our Nottingham artist ! whose studies have embraced the whole circle of picturesque nature, from the shrub which blossoms in the hedge-row, to the poplar that glitters in the sunbeams and waves its lofty head in the glade—from the nodding beech, which wreaths aloft its odd fantastic roots, to the majestic oak that towers on the summit of the mountain—from the cultured vale, waving with golden harvests, spangled over with flowerets, and adorned with grazing bees, to the stupendous and tremendous rock,

—— “ Whose lofty brow  
“ Frowns o'er the foaming flood below.”\*

### THOMAS SANDBY,

Brother to the above celebrated artist, was born in Nottingham in the year 1721 ; and, though we know nothing of the habits of his early life, yet they must have been of an industrious and liberal kind, as he was a celebrated architect, and was many years professor of that science in the Royal Academy of London : He died in 1798.

### SAMUEL AYSCOUGH,

This gentleman was son to Mr. George Ayscough, printer in this town, and, no doubt, was born while his father resided in Bridlesmith-gate, probably about the year 1740, for we have no correct knowledge of the year of his birth. At a proper age he was sent to the Free-School, Stoney-street, which was then confined to the instructing the pupils in the classics. Lempriere states Mr. Ayscough to have been put under the care of a schoolmaster of the name of Johnson, which, if

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\* It is somewhat marvellous, that the merits of this great man should hitherto have remained unnoticed, except in *Phillip's Public Characters*, to which work the author acknowledges himself indebted.

correct, cannot mean the Johnson that was master of the Free-School ; for he left the school in the year 1718, which would make Mr. Ayscough about forty years of age when his father's misfortunes prevented him from completing his education, a circumstance which Lempriere notices ; we shall therefore proceed with the short narrative without any regard to the name of his schoolmaster ; such master probably being the Rev. Timothy Wylde.

Mr. George Ayscough being unfortunate in business, he retired, about the year 1755, to Bramcote, where he died ; and his son Samuel was not only deprived of the completion of his intended education ; but he was necessitated to apply himself to manual labour for his support. He therefore engaged in the capacity of servant to a miller, and seemed doomed to bury his talents in the *meal-tub* and to feed on the *toll* and the sweat of his brow to the end of his days. But fortune, though she never blessed him with much wealth, a common practice with the capricious goddess to men of superior talents, yet she had pursuits in store for him more congenial to the formation of his mind. And, about the year 1770, an old school-fellow, whose name I have not been gratified with, rescued him from his drudgery, and obtained an employment for him in the British Museum. Here, as his abilities unfolded themselves, he received encouragement ; but the principal circumstance which ensured him repute in this national establishment, was his making a correct catalogue of the numerous collection of manuscripts, which had been many years collecting, and which were of comparative little value, for want of arrangement, classification, and direction ; and for this, among other things, he was appointed assistant librarian to the institution. He was also employed in the difficult arrangement of the numerous papers in the Tower. He likewise wrote an index to the first fifty-six volumes of the Gentleman's Magazine, to the Monthly Review, and the British Critic. But his most difficult task in this kind of labour was, his index to the works of Shakespeare, by the aid of which every sentiment in that extraordinary and sentimental author is immediately traced to its source. He also appeared as an original author by answering, " Letters of an American Farmer."

Mr. Ayscough took orders, and obtained the curacy of St. Giles's in the Fields ; and, in 1790, he was appointed to preach the annual *Fairchild* lecture before the Royal Society on Whit-Tuesday, in Shoreditch Church, which he continued to do during fourteen years. In 1804, the Lord Chancellor gave him the benefice of Cudham, in Kent ; but the appointment was of little use to him, for he died the year following.

### *THOMAS PEET (an eminent Mathematician,)*

It is a common opinion, that mathematicians are the most unsocial of mankind. This notion, I am inclined to believe, is founded on error and prejudice ; for the mathematicians with whom I have had the honor of being acquainted, I have found possessing very social habits ; and if working men, their manners have always displayed the polish of superior minds. It is true that the great Emerson, who died in 1782, at the age of eighty-one, was one of the most uncouth and uncourteous of human beings, not only in his dress, but in his manners also, one instance of the latter of which will suffice. The Duke of Manchester was very partial to Emerson, and would frequently ask him to take a ride in his coach, when the other would generally reply, " Damn your whim-whams, I

“had rather walk.” It must be admitted also, that many mathematicians, wishing to become *Emersons* in fame, have only succeeded in aping the rudeness of his behaviour; and hence public prejudice has censured all the class. Some of them too, by an affectatious pretension to a knowledge in the silly and justly exploded art of astrology, have exposed themselves to public ridicule, while they could only obtain admirers among the most stupid and illiterate, which adds little of value to, or rather subtracts from a scholar’s fame. And it appears that Mr. Peet, or Peat, was among the number of astrological mathematicians.

In a Nottingham newspaper, of the 26th of February, 1780, I find the subject of this memoir thus noticed:—“On Monday last, died in Greyfriars’-gate, aged seventy-two, Mr. Thomas Peat, land surveyor, a skilful astronomer, mathematician, and schoolmaster. He was the oldest almanack writer in England, having wrote the Gentleman’s Diary and Poor Robin, upwards of forty years; during which time he was never behind hand with his competitors at prognosticating future events. He was the ablest public teacher of mathematics in this town; and, many who have shone in that intricate science, laid their first foundation under his inspection. Arithmetic has numbered his days, and geometry measured out his grave: his body is now at rest, and his soul has soared beyond those stars, whose revolutions he so often contemplated. He was concerned with the late ingenious Mr. John Badder of Cossal, in drawing out a new plan and map of this town, which was published, November the 30th, 1744, dedicated to the late Right Hon. Francis Willoughby, Baron Middleton, in the county of Warwick.”\*

The following particulars concerning this gentleman I had from his son, who possesses little to brighten up the evening of a long life, except the reflection of having descended from the celebrated *Thomas Peet*.

The father of our mathematician occupied a farm in the township of Ashley Hay in the parish of Wirksworth, Derbyshire; and, at a proper age, was sent to school in the neighbourhood, where he was taught the rudiments of the English and Latin languages. But, unhappily for him, before he had made much progress in any particular branch of learning, his mother, who was very much attached to the principles of whiggism, discovered that his master was a tory, and a high-churchman, which rendered him so abhorrent in her estimation, that young Peet was immediately taken from school, and compelled to drudge with a servant man at the plough and dung-cart.—This drawback upon the powers of an active mind, need not be described; and the only necessity for alluding to it, is to add to the merit of the “Ploughboy,” the industry of whose genius was not to be overcome with difficulties. Peet had now no books congenial with his wishes, or money wherewith to purchase them; but his attention to labour, as far as his power went, supplied the lamentable deficiency. He had already learnt, that there was such a science as *mathematics*; and, nothing but drinking deeply at the fountain-head, could quench his thirst for becoming a *mathematician*. He carefully stored up every trifling sum of money which his parents gave him, and added to the stock by striking with a heavy hammer at a blacksmith’s shop, for a penny an hour, after he had

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\* The plate of this map, divested of its ornaments, was afterwards sold to Mr. Ayscough for ten guineas, who attached it to *Deering’s Antiquities*.

done the daily work, which his father required at his hands. By these means he obtained a small library, consisting principally of classical and mathematical publications; and, from the good use he made of them, he shortly became the idol of the hamlet, and was looked upon by many as a prodigy. His fame soon caused an application to be made for him by a gentleman, on very liberal terms, who wished to apply his genius to some advantage; but his parents refused to part with him from under their immediate care, for fear that his active principles should be tinctured with toryism.—How lamentable is political or religious prejudice, towards whatever party it may lean, particularly, as in the case before us, when it interferes with the instruction and developement of native genius!

If young Peet, however, had been permitted to pursue, without unnecessary controlment, his favorite study, he would, in all probability, have remained contented under his parental roof; but this privilege was, in part denied to him; he therefore determined to break his bonds, though that step of moral disobedience, was accompanied with heart-rending pangs to his fond and over careful parents. He therefore fled to Nottingham, at the age of fourteen, and prevailed upon an elder brother, then settled here in the capacity of a master joiner and carpenter, to take him as an apprentice. But, here Peet's situation was not altered for the better; for his brother would not permit him to earn any thing for his own free disposal, and his reading was restricted to religious books. Happily however, it is for science and for the universal interest of mankind, that no prison has yet been found strong enough to confine native talent within the encasing bounds of its gloomy and noxious cells: Tyrants may enchain it, and poverty may enshroud it; but its refulgence bids defiance alike to the cruel and controlling engines of both. It smiles at the impotency of their power, while it writhes under the severity of their lash; and, like the beams of heaven, bursts from behind the sable mantle which vainly seeks to involve it in perpetual gloom.

Peet, by being a regular attendant with his brother at the Unitarian chapel, became particularly noticed by Cornelius Wildbore, a master dyer, who had sufficient penetration to discover a hidden genius in the youth, and sufficient generosity of heart to foster it and give it scope. By holding frequent conversations with him he found that the bent of his mind was a pursuit after mathematics; and he furnished him with the necessary books on that science, and thus laid a firm foundation for that superstructure which afterwards ensured fadeless credit to Peet in the scientific world. Such progress did Peet make in his studies, when his genius became fanned by the kind hand of literary friendship, that he had not been long freed from the trammels of his apprenticeship before he commenced his mathematical career; a career which he pursued to the time of his death. For conducting the two almanacks above named, he received twenty-three pounds per annum, with complete sets of those publications, and the privilege of ordering every new mathematical book which appeared, at the expence of his employers.

### *CHARLES WILDBORE (an intuitive Mathematician.)*

Charles was born in this town in the year 1736; but whether he was related, though distantly, to the Wildbores, dyers, is not for me to say; but certain it is, that he was left an orphan when very young, and that he was confided to the care of those persons who had the charge of St.

Nicholas's workhouse. At a proper age he was recommended to, and placed in, the Blue-coat School; but who took charge of his maintenance I know not. In school he was remarkable only for his extreme dullness and absence of thought, except when placed in contact with figures, at which time he appeared quite another boy. Indeed, *figures seemed not to have been made for the use of Charles Wildbore; but Charles Wildbore for the use of figures!* Arithmetic, to him, was like shaking hands with an old acquaintance; and he seemed to be intuitively a mathematician. While the boys in the streets were calling him *silly Charley*, he, regardless of their scoffs, would be pondering on the infinity of fluxions, or solving a problem in geometry. At the age of fourteen he was put an apprentice, by the trustees of the school, with the usual premium, to Mr. Warton Partridge, in this town, apothecary, who was well known to the day of his death, which is but a few years ago, by the appellation of *Doctor Partridge*. But Charles, with an increased propensity for mathematics, could be taught little else. Were he employed in the shop to compound medicines, the drugs were generally spoilt; or were he sent out with the compounds already prepared, he would frequently mistake the house of the patient. And, what was still more provoking, when sent into the cellar to draw liquor for the use of the family, *the spigot of the barrel was almost always left in a wrong place!* When Charles was reproved for his neglect and forgetfulness, he would always promise not to commit the like faults in future; but no sooner was he left alone, than *figures* would chase the *promises* from his recollection, and the next day he would commit the like faults again, and again make the like promises, if reproved.

From the time that Charles left Mr. Partridge we hear nothing of him, till we find him married to a Miss Anne Lee, at Kirkby-Woodhouse, in this county, when he was twenty-four years of age. Shortly after this period he discovered himself to be the legal heir to a comfortable little estate at Kirton, about four miles from Boston, in Lincolnshire, which he recovered, and which is enjoyed at the present time by his son, the Rev. Charles Wildbore, vicar of Tilton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire. Mr. Wildbore, finding himself in rather easy circumstances, now applied the powers of his mind to his favorite studies; and, at about the age of thirty, he took orders, and shortly afterwards obtained the curacy of Broughton Sulney, commonly called Over Broughton, in this county, which he held with high reputation to the time of his death, which took place in 1802. At the death of Peet, Mr. Wildbore obtained either the whole, or a principal share in the management of the Gentleman's Diary; and, at the same time, procured for

### JOHN PEARSON,

Also an eminent mathematician and school-master of Nottingham, the conducting of Poor Robin's Almanack; which production he had the management of to the day of his death, which took place in 1791, he being sixty-two years of age. Mr. Pearson was famous as a satirist, and few gentlemen in this town or neighbourhood escaped his barbed shafts; therefore, by that class, he was more *feared* than *beloved*. Though satirists are necessary as correctors of those vices which the laws cannot reach, yet it is a difficult task for one of that class to learn *where corrective justice ends*, and *where abuse begins*; hence it is, that their *enemies* always outnumber their *friends*, at least among men of property; and hence it is, that they seldom receive the due reward of their merit,



until death has rendered them insensible to its value. And though this may, in a great degree, be considered the case with Mr. Pearson, yet his company was always courted by men of letters; but it could seldom be obtained without a handsome sacrifice at the shrine of Bacchus. When the new burying-ground of St. Nicholas's parish was consecrated, Mr. Pearson was heard to say, "It is not unlikely that my body may be the first corpse interred here," which supposition was verified by the fact. Had this supposition and its subsequent verification happened when astrology and divinity were alike considered *holy* pursuits, and when, in fact, they were equally *profitable*, the circumstance would have ensured Mr. Pearson the character of a conjurer; but we will do him the justice to say, that his good sense induced him to hold all notions of astrology in contempt. Mr. Pearson left some property which is enjoyed by his son and his daughter, both holding respectable stations in life.

### HENRY SHIPLEY

Was the eldest surviving son of Henry Shipley, who was gardener to the late John Sherwin, Esq. of St. Mary's-gate in this town, during a space of thirty-six years. Young Henry was born on the 27th of June, 1763; and, as he grew up, he displayed talents far superior to his years, which along with an established attachment to his family, induced Mr. Sherwin to notice him in a particular manner; and, at that gentleman's instigation, he was placed in the Blue-coat School, under the tuition of Mr. Pearson, whom we have just noticed, and whom Shipley, to the day of his death, called his *father*. Pearson saw the talents in the boy, and gave those talents wings. At the age of thirteen he was articled to Mr. Wilkinson, conductor of the academy in Parliament-street, for seven years; at the end of which time, Mr. Blanchard, who succeeded Mr. Wilkinson, is said to have declared him to be the finest English scholar that Nottingham had produced. After having been employed in several schools as an usher, he opened one for himself in Halifax-lane, where now stands the Methodist Chapel. He likewise practised as a land surveyor and draughtsman, particularly the latter, with no common reputation.

When the blaze of the French revolution burst forth to the astonishment of mankind, it was impossible that a man of Shipley's strong empassioned mind and conspicuousness of character should remain an idle spectator; and he shewed himself strongly attached to the aristocratic side, seeking daily for opportunities to impugn and condemn the presumption of opposing the actions of hereditary kings, whatever might be their conduct. But Shipley was not long to remain in this degrading state of mental blindness and subserviency: he began to reason upon the origin of human right—upon the nature of man's individual and collective interests—upon his claim to the power of abrogating odious laws and barbarous customs, and of substituting others in their stead; and he soon came to the conclusion, that the office of king had been created for the use of the people, and not the people for the use of kings; and that the right of changing or altering the government of a country, rested exclusively with the national will. Our scholar was not long therefore ere he changed sides; and he carried into the ranks of his new associates all the vigour and energies of his soul.

As Shipley's genius and education qualified him in so ample a manner to take a leading part in political circles, it is no wonder that the friends of freedom considered the acquisition of him as an host. Of every political society or party formed in the town, *Shipley* must be a member, to instruct with his knowledge, and enliven with his wit, until company became as habitual to him as his food. Numerous petitions, of which he generally was the writer, were presented to these companies in behalf of persecuted persons, and others in distress; and in the compliance with the prayers of which he frequently set an example by his generosity. He was the author too of many fugitive political pieces, generally to his cost. To these numerous and regular drainings of his purse, may be added the calls of an increasing family; no wonder then that his coffer never overflowed.

Shortly after the death of his first wife, he married the sister of Mr. Thomas Maltby, lace-manufacturer, and now banker of this town. As Mr. Maltby had no family of his own—as he possessed an ample fortune and a generous heart, and loved his sister with the tenderest affections of a brother, there is little doubt but this connection would have afforded Shipley the means of gliding down the stream of life pretty easily, could he have bent his lofty soul to have sought, yet with manliness and an independency of mind, the friendship of that gentleman; and, for not doing of which, many of his best friends frequently rebuked him, but in vain. Mr. Maltby had strongly opposed the match, partly from political motives; but his heart was too good to contain a particle of persecution within it; and Shipley had sufficiently punished him for this opposition, by the success of his suit; but, whether our scholar really thought so, is not for me to say. He knew he possessed talents of a very superior kind, *to which, he thought, every thing else ought to give way.*—*Pride* is a most important ingredient in the composition of the human mind, when accompanied with a due proportion of *prudence*; and a man of talent without it would lose that consequence in society, which nature, justice, and a conformation of habits proclaim his due; but *pride* without *prudence* destroys its own purpose; and is infinitely less desirable than *prudence* without *pride*.

After this worthy woman had brought Mr. Shipley three children, he found himself a widower a second time, and with circumstances much on the wane. That company to which he used to resort for the purpose of giving and receiving information and for conviviality, he now flew to with increased avidity for the purpose of therein finding a shield against those feelings which preyed deeply upon his wounded heart. But, we will not pursue this subject further. Suffice it to say, that he died, after a short illness, on the 14th of February, 1808, deeply lamented by a numerous and respectable circle of friends. His brother John, a master framesmith, took charge of his elder boy, the only remaining child by his first wife; and Mr. Maltby took charge of the other three.

As a tribute to the memory of a departed friend and man of talent, the author of this work wrote the following lines, which were intended to be engraven on a tombstone, but which object has hitherto remained unaccomplished:—

Stop, passenger, nor take report on trust,  
Concerning him, whose cold and mouldering dust  
Entombed lies, beneath this worm-fraught clay,  
Untouch'd by winter's blast or summer's scorching ray.

If boundless genius---if a giant mind---  
 If piercing wit, with sentiment combined---  
 If unfeigned kindness to his friends around---  
 If pouring balsam where distress was found---  
 If bidding science take her due control,  
 And light unfolding to the clouded soul---  
 If these endowments ever formed a man,  
 Designed by nature on her happiest plan?  
 Then such was *SHIPLEY*---though his faults not few,  
 Which in succession from his virtues grew!  
 Then him surpass in virtue and in fame;  
 And leave to *slander* all his faults to name.

Mr. Shipley, at one time, had made considerable progress in preparing an English Grammar for the press; but when Mr. John Horne Tooke's elaborate treatise on the same subject made its appearance, Mr. Shipley burnt his manuscript, saying, he would not compete with so great a man as Horne Tooke.

### ***HENRY KIRKE WHITE.***

If, in portraying the character of this remarkable young man, who may be compared to a carnation which might fortuitously bloom in January, only to excite admiration and then be cut off by the next nipping frost, I were to give full scope to my feelings of sympathy, I might give detraction occasion to charge me with begging a question too nearly allied with *self*; I shall therefore spare myself the pleasing task; and will just observe, the youth has had an *eugolist*: he shall now have a *biographer*.

Henry was the second son of John and Mary White of Nottingham, where he was born on the 21st of March, 1785. His mother keeps a boarding school for young ladies; and his father, till of late, was a master butcher. Henry, when very young, displayed his propensity for learning by his ever seeking to be in possession of a book, not to play with, as is customary with other children, but for the purpose of infantile contemplation. At the age of seven, it was discovered by his parents, that he made a practice of secretly instructing the servant girl how to write, he having then been about a year under Mr. Blanchard, at the academy in Parliament-street. At this school he was taught writing, arithmetic, and French; at the same time he was doomed to trudge one whole day in the week and occasionally on others with the butcher's basket, until, at the intercession of his mother he was rescued from the task. Mrs. White having had a liberal education, and possessing a tolerable share of penetration, thought she discovered a strong natural genius in her son, which she wished to foster by every means in her power; but, what was her astonishment, when told by one of Mr. Blanchard's blockhead ushers, that Henry was so dull and incorrigible that it was impossible to teach him any thing. The inquietude occasioned to the family by this declaration, equally ignorant and insulting, was soon done away by the removal of Henry from this academy, and the placing him under the direction of a master that was capable of distinguishing between "dulness" and intuitive talent. He was placed under the care of Mr. Shipley, of whom we have just spoken, and, under whose judicious direction, his genius shortly burst forth.—

To a correct knowledge of the English language, which he soon learnt under this excellent master, he added the Greek and Latin languages, which he was taught by McCormick, the well known author of the *Life of Burke*, and continuator of Hume and Smollet.\*

When Henry was fourteen, it was determined to make him a hosier, preparatory to which, he was consigned a year to the stocking frame, to give proper ideas of the quality of a stocking, which situation was as irksome to him, as being chained to the *butcher's basket*; because, he observed, there was nothing about the frame to *occupy his brains*. How much mistaken was this ardent youth! and, how would he have blushed, had he lived to have obtained maturity to his genius, at having made use of such an expression; for he would have found, upon judicious inquiry, of all the pieces of mechanism ever produced by the skill of man, that a stocking frame is the most complete, particularly if we add its numerously appended machines. But the mind of our young scholar, if we may be allowed the boldness of the figure, was like the world's vast surface in its first efforts to form itself from its original chaos: it assumed new shapes, and took new directions, in proportion as it was acted upon by an agency which it had not sufficient solidity to resist.—Hence the many changes which Henry is said to have made in his notions about religion, futurity, &c. which would be doing an injustice to his memory to dwell upon; and hence the numerous theories, which transitorily existed in his fancy, and on which he proposed to erect the practical pursuits of his life. His fancy was too fruitful for the imaginary dimensions of his mind; and the latter, like a caldron over heated, was frequently discharging its contents, without order or design.

Young White again found a powerful advocate in his mother, whose persuasions overcame his father's logic; and he was taken from the stocking frame and placed at the desk of Messrs. Coldham and Enfield, attorneys-at-law. A new and most enchanting field of action now presented itself to Henry's imagination. He had learnt that the practice of the law was a proper field for the display of the most masculine intellectual powers; he knew too that many had risen by its means from the depth of obscurity to almost the highest stations in life; and he already heard, by the most captivating anticipation, his own powerful eloquence thundering at the bar; nor did he lose any opportunity to befit himself for the realization of his hopes. In his stated hours he applied himself unremittingly to his duty at the desk of his employers; while his vacant hours and nearly the whole of the night were occupied in mental improvement. He occasionally studied logic, theology, mechanics, most of the modern European, and the dead languages; but he particularly attended to the statute and common law of England, in the knowledge of the latter of which a great many attorneys are so miserably deficient. They learn the heads of the statute law by rote, as a butcher's boy learns how to make skewers; and, when to this they have added a tolerable knowledge of conveyancing, they think themselves *complete lawyers*. It seems, however, that young White had obtained a correct knowledge of what it was necessary for an attorney to learn; and he therefore applied himself particularly to the common law—it is fair to presume, that he received this hint, and the means of pursuing its directions, from the gentlemen whom he served. Master White also

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\* This profound scholar was then residing in Nottingham, under the name of Cavendish, an exile from his native country (Ireland,) and obtained a scanty pittance by teaching the learned languages. He was the first editor of the *Statesman* London daily newspaper; but he died miserable in London; and the last articles he sold for subsistence were his books!

attended closely to the study of oratory, as on his success therein, he justly concluded, his ulterior hopes considerably depended ; but how was he, alone, to regulate the melody and cadence of his voice, and give to his person the grace of commanding action ? These were weighty obstacles for a boy of fifteen to encounter ! After various attempts, rendered unsuccessful on account of his youth, to gain admission into a literary society, at that time held at Nottingham, he succeeded ; and, the evening he was admitted, he equally charmed and astonished the members thereof, by delivering an extemporary lecture, which lasted two hours, *upon the powers of genius*.—CHATTERTON ! unfortunate and misguided CHATTERTON ! here was found a rival, even to thyself ! and though, as thou hadst, he had not, while in his *teens*, borne the torch of literature blazing in his hand through the proud metropolis of the British empire ; yet, like thyself, he was snatched from the society of men, before the bloom of manhood had mantled on his brow.

Thus passed on the days of this extraordinary youth, until his mother's forebodings respecting his constitution, and whose admonitions he had disregarded, were too apparent in a regular decline of his health. He was seized too with an unconquerable deafness, which unfitted him for the law. The church was now thought of as a proper place for the display of his talents, and as a sanctuary against the clouds of adversity ; but how to obtain his introduction was a difficulty which appeared almost insurmountable. At length, however, this difficulty was overcome, and he was placed in the University of Cambridge in October, 1804, Messrs. Coldham and Enfield generously giving up the articles of agreement ; and, at the same time they furnished him with a character which did equal honor to his qualities and their own feelings. He now entered upon a new career ; but, to him, it was the career of death ; for the complaint which had been brought upon him by severe study, now received an increase of power from the same cause ; and he died on the 19th of October, 1806, when the honors of the University appeared only to be waiting for an increase of years, in order to their being placed upon his brow. Though but two years in this seminary he was twice acknowledged the victor at the college examinations ; and, on one of these occasions he was declared one of the best three theme writers ; and who was the best of these three, the examiners declared their inability to determine. But the best and proudest trait in this young man's character is yet to name : *He possessed a constitutional irritability of temper ; which potent enemy to the social virtues, he had the courage to attack, and the fortitude to overcome !*

At the age of seventeen he published a small volume of poems, which, since his death, has been re-published along with a number of his other writings, consisting principally of letters of advice to his friends, on moral and religious subjects ; and the chief value of which is, to shew *what might have been expected from his pen*, if he had lived to mature his judgment, and regulate the floating ideas of his mind. And it is fair to say, if his friends had consulted his reputation *as an author*, they would have suppressed the principal part of his poems in the publication of his papers after his death, as they contain very few thoughts of value which are not borrowed from Goldsmith, Milton, Bloomfield, &c. ; though it must be confessed that, in this plagiarism, there is considerable ingenuity displayed. As it would be an act of injustice to write a critique upon the

writings of a deceased boy, I shall merely give one extract from his poem addressed "To the Morning," as a proof of the truth of what is stated above :—

" And hark ! the thatcher has begun  
 " His whistle on the eaves,  
 " And oft the hedger's bill is heard  
 " Among the rustling leaves.  
 " The slow team creaks upon the road,  
 " The noisy whip resounds,  
 " The driver's voice, his carol blithe,  
 " The mower's stroke, his whetting scythe,  
 " Mix with the morning's sounds."

The following lines are from Milton's *L'Allegro* :—

" While the ploughman, near at hand,  
 " Whistles o'er the furrow'd land,  
 " And the milkmaid singeth blithe,  
 " And the mower whets his scythe,  
 " And every shepherd tells his tale  
 " Under the hawthorn in the dale."

There is a passage too in our juvenile author's " Clifton Grove," that it would be an act of gross injustice to the mechanics of Nottingham, therein alluded to, not to notice ; which is as follows :—

" Or, where the town's blue turrets dimly rise,  
 " And *manufacture taints* the ambient skies,  
 " The *pale mechanic* leaves the lab'ring loom,  
 " The air-pent hold, the pestilential room,  
 " And rushes out, *impatient to begin*  
 " The *stated course of customary sin*."

Were the author of this libel in a state of manhood, and did not retract it, he should receive that chastisement which would be his due, if he had not previously received it at the hands of one of these " pale mechanics" with a *horse whip*. For, however poets are held in public estimation—and, most certainly, no man holds the bright luminaries of that cast in higher estimation than does the writer of these pages ; yet he has no hesitation in saying, that the mechanics of Nottingham (whose *pale*ness is a strong mark of their misfortunes) *are of more real value to society, than are all the poets that ever lived, or ever will live*. Besides, for a boy of sixteen to assume the censorship over the great mass of a large and an enlightened population, and condemning them in one sweeping ban for following recreations, at the close of a long day's labour, which the iron-souled Cato the elder would have supported, as indispensable to health ; and when the industry of these very " pale mechanics" had enabled his father, as a tradesman, to feed, clothe, and educate him—for a boy of sixteen to do this, is such an outrage upon good sense, propriety, and decorum, as to defy an apologist to find a palliative, *except contempt concedes it to boyish pertness*. And there is too much reason to believe, that this superciliousness had taken deep root in his mind, as in a letter addressed to his sister a few months before his death, on a probability being held out of his

obtaining the situation of master of the Free-School in this town, he says, “ The place would “ scarcely be an object to me, for I am very certain, that if I chuse, when I have taken my degree, “ I may have half a dozen pupils, to prepare for the University, with a salary of £100 per annum, “ which would be more *respectable*, and more consonant with *my habits* and studies, *than drilling “ the fry of a trading town, in learning which they do not know how to value.*” Here are the sentiments of a Cardinal Wolsey, who, as report says, though perhaps more degradingly than truly, was also nursed on the *butcher’s stall*. But as none will attribute to me a desire to underrate talent on account of the origin or calling of its possessor ; so none will attribute this remark to a desire to lessen either the one or the other : no, it is the superciliousness of the young man which called forth the comparison with the reported origin of the tyrant-slave Wolsey ; and the most unpardonable part of the business is, his friends permitting such sentiments to be published after his death ; as, while they add nothing to his credit as a writer, they form such a serious drawback upon the benignity and felicitation of his heart.

### WALTER MERREY.

This gentleman was a native of York, but was put apprentice to a surgeon in Nottingham. His master, however dying shortly after, he was then apprenticed to a gentleman who followed the united business of hosier and woolcomber, a unity much practised in the early stage of the framework-knitting trade ; and which united businesses Mr. Merrey followed many years in Castle-gate, where he died. He was remarkable for his knowledge in ancient medals and coins, a large collection of which he made for his own curiosity. In 1794, he published a treatise on the coinage of England, from the earliest period of authentic record to that time ; and assigned causes for the great scarcity of silver : had he lived a few years longer he would have had opportunities in abundance of assigning causes for the great scarcity of gold likewise. His book contained observations on the ancient Roman coinage, and a description of some medals and coins found near Nottingham ; and the whole was highly spoken of by the reviewers. He died, at an advanced age, in the year 1799.

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## CHAPTER XII.

### ECCENTRIC CHARACTERS, &c.

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#### *WILLIAM SOMERS (the distinguished Impostor of Nottingham.)*

THE imposture of this youth, as connected with the infamous conduct of the Rev. John Darrel, minister of Mansfield, and, afterwards assistant minister of St. Mary's in this town, became so much a subject of public interest at the time, that many of the circumstances attending it have been handed down by tradition in a confused manner to the present day, though they happened as early as the year 1597. I have therefore, along with my ever industrious, and, hitherto, nameless friend, been at considerable pains to obtain a true relation of the affair. And, by happily getting possession of a very scarce "Historical Essay concerning witchcraft," written by the Rev. Dr. Hutchinson, minister of St. James's parish, St. Edmund's Bury, and chaplain in ordinary to George the First, which was published in 1718, the object has been accomplished. And, I feel the greater interest in giving the relation at some length, as there is little doubt the reader will take in perusing it, from a sister of one of the aldermen of Nottingham being maliciously implicated in possessing the supposed demoniac—from the magistrates and other gentlemen interesting themselves on one side or the other in the affair; and from the judges of assize, and afterwards the archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Lord Chief Justices of the courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas, &c. being commissioned to inquire into and determine it.

It is wonderful to us of the present day, that the notions of witchcraft and demoniac possession should have been permitted to make such havoc with the peace and happiness of society, particularly after the reformation was established; for, from that happy epoch to the close of the sixteenth century, about one hundred and fifty persons were hanged or burnt as *witches* or *wizzards*, when these disgraceful scenes received their death blow, principally from the integrity and enlightened understanding of Lord Chief Justice Holt.\* It is not the less singular that the established church and the legislature of England should have given importance to the disgraceful notions of witchcraft *by attempts to regulate them*: for instance; the seventy-second canon was principally occasioned by this very case of Somers's, now under consideration, which directs, that any clergyman shall be subject to the penalties inflicted upon an impostor, who shall use prayers for the casting out of devils, unless he first obtained a licence to authorize him to do so from the

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\* From the restoration of Charles the Second, to the year 1718, not less than twenty-one publications appeared in this country in favor of witchcraft, the names of which, with those of their authors, as far as depends upon the writer hereof, shall rest in eternal sleep.



bishop of his diocese. And, about two years before, a law was passed by the English\* government, *against feeding, and rewarding, or giving suck to evil spirits.*

Dr. Harsenet, afterwards Archbishop of York, while he was chaplain to Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, who died in 1610, endeavoured to crush the notions of witchcraft by ridicule, in a book which he entitled "*A Declaration of Popish Impostures,*" and in which he gives the following ludicrous description of a witch :—From a number of silly notions which he enumerates, he says, "Out of these is shaped as the true idea of a witch—an old weather beaten crone, having her chin "and her knees meeting for age, walking like a bow leaning on a staff, hollow-eyed, untoothed, "furrowed on her face, having her lips trembling with the palsy, going mumbling in the streets: "one that hath forgotten her *pater-noster*, and yet hath a shrewd tongue to call a *drab* a *drab*." The same author relates an anecdote told by John Bodin, a Frenchman, who died in 1596, in the following words :—"A witch sold an egg to an Englishman, and by the same transformed him "into an *ass*, and made him her market mule three years to ride on to buy butter."—Perhaps this Frenchman had a political allusion in his head, and wrote the anecdote for some offence he might have received when on a visit in England with the Duke of Alencon, for he was great *wit*, which Dr. Harsenet does not inform us of. Of Merlin, who lived in the fifth century, and who may be considered the father of English mathematicians, it was almost universally believed, during many centuries, that he was begotten upon his mother by the devil, under the influence or disguise of an incubus. This *devilish* origin is supposed to have given Merlin such *devilish* power, that when *Uther Pendragon* fell in love with *Igraine*, wife of Garlois, Duke of Cornwall, he transformed the said Pendragon into the likeness of the duke, who took this opportunity of begetting upon the said duchess, in the castle of Tintagil, the celebrated king *Arthur*. Having thus given a few instances of witchcraft and demoniac credulity, we will proceed with our narrative.

*William Somers*, when we first hear of him, lived in the capacity of a servant boy with one

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\* The following is an exact copy of a licence granted in consequence of the promulgation of this canon; and is the only one, I believe, upon record. It was granted by the Bishop of Chester in the year 1603, concerning a boy, twelve years of age, of the name of Thomas Harrison, whose parents resided at Norwich:—First we think it fit, and do require the parents of the said child, that they suffer not any to repair to their house to visit him, saving such as are in authority, and other persons of special regard, and known discretion; and to have special care, that the number always be small. Further—having seen the bodily afflictions of the said child, and observed in sundry fits very strange effects and operations, either proceeding of natural unknown causes, or some diabolical practice; we think it convenient and fit, for the ease and deliverance of the said child from his grievous afflictions, that prayer be made for him publicly by the minister of the parish, or any other preacher repairing thither, before the congregation, so often as the same assembleth. And certain preachers, namely, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Massey, Mr. Collier, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Eaton, Mr. Pierson, and Mr. Brownhill, these only, and none other, to repair unto the said child, by turns, as their leisure will serve, and to use their discretions for private prayer and fasting, for the ease and comfort of the afflicted; withal requiring them to abstain from all solemn meetings, because the calamity is particular, and the authority of allowing and prescribing such meetings resteth neither in them, nor us, but in our superiors, whose pleasure it is fit we should expect.—Moreover, because it is by some held, *that the child is really possessed of an unclean spirit*; for that there appeareth to us no certainty, nor yet any great probability thereof, we think it also convenient, and require the preachers aforesaid, to forbear all forms of exorcisms, which always imply and suppose a real and actual possession.

RICH. CESTRIENSIS,  
DAVID YATE, *Chancellor*,  
GRIFF. VAUGHAN,  
HUGH BURGHESS.

Mr. Brakenbury, at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, where dwelt one John Darrel, apparently about twelve years older than Somers, and who will be found acting a most conspicuous part in this imposture. This Darrel was consigned by his friends to the study of the law, but being of a very indolent disposition, and, pretending to be called by the *Spirit*, he commenced preacher of the gospel among what were called Puritans in that day; and shortly afterwards commenced exorcist, and obtained the appellation of *Dr. Darrel*. The boy, Somers, while residing with Mr. Brakenbury, affected to be troubled with an odd kind of fits, which, it afterwards appeared, he was instructed in the exhibition of by Mr. Darrel. His master discharged him, and he very soon recovered; for Darrel had gone to settle at Mansfield in his capacity of *divine*. The boy was then sent to Nottingham, where his mother had been married to a person of the name of Robert Cowper, and who bound him apprentice to one Thomas Porter; but what business the latter followed, I find not, as it is simply stated that he was "one of the town-music." The boy, however, frequently ran away, and as frequently returned, when driven by necessity; and, when his time of apprenticeship had expired, his master demanded him to stay until he had made up the time which he had lost by running away. The boy, now grown to man's estate, determined upon an expedient to weary his master out. He therefore pretended to be very ill; and, by having got the knack of puffing up his belly, and by giving his face and body strange contortions, he excited the attention of idle and superstitious persons, some of whom declared him to be bewitched, and at the same time brought him a book concerning witchcraft, from which he obtained some hints, very useful in his new *profession*. He was induced also to declare, that an old woman was his tormentor, because he had refused to give her a hat-band, which he had found. Among the rest of the idlers that called upon and gave countenance to young Somers, was a sister of Dr. Darrel's, who said her brother at Mansfield had already cast devils out of nine possessed persons, and that there was no doubt of his curing this youth, if applied to for that purpose. Somers, when in his fits, from this time was constantly calling upon "*Darrel! Darrel!*" therefore Mr. Aldridge, vicar of St. Mary's, wrote to the *doctor*, desiring his assistance. The game now took a more important direction: Mr. Darrel declared, in the youth's hearing, how he had seen others act—that he was possessed by a devil—that he would be much *worse*, before he was *better*—that he was then suffering for all the sins of Nottingham; and that there must be a *fast* in the town, held specially for the youth's recovery. It seems that some very large and respectable house was appointed for service to be held in, on this solemn occasion; and, in order to impress the people's minds more powerfully, preparative thereto, he gave out, that all husbands must forbear to have carnal connection with their wives the previous night, that they might see the signs of possession and dispossession more clearly. This is a new recipe for the clearing of human sight; and one, perhaps, which the ladies may not be very desirous of having recommended.

The 7th of November was the day appointed for the fast and the grand exorcisation; and, in the morning, Somers was brought to the house appointed, kicking and struggling upon seven men's shoulders. A Mr. Aldrid preached the first sermon, during which time the *possessed* lay still; but, when Mr. Darrel commenced, and had distinctly described *fourteen signs* which the

youth must pass through, a swelling ran from his head to his legs ; he muttered strange expressions ; his tongue appeared to swell, and to roll down his throat ; he endeavoured to cast himself into the fire ; his joints became stiff ; in short, he exhibited the *fourteen signs of possession*, which Mr. Darrel had named. He had now three signs of dispossession to go through, which consisted of crying, rending his garments, and lying as if dead. These were easily managed—out flew the devil ; but whether the men had obeyed Mr. Darrel's injunctions, or their wives' caresses and their own desires, the night before, seems rather doubtful, as we are not told that any of the company, which consisted of an hundred and fifty, *saw* the devil in his flight. However Mr. Darrel, with uplifted hands, called upon his hearers to confess their sins ; and *two* of them were silly enough to attend to his injunction. About a week after this *holy man* was induced to accept of the situation of assistant minister at St. Mary's ; and, as all this juggling would not induce the youth's master to give up his indenture, Mr. Darrel bought his time out, clothed him, and placed him under the care of his father-in-law, to whom he made promises of recompence ; taking care first to obtain a handsome collection from his congregation—such is *trick* and *credulity*.

Mr. Darrel gave out in his sermons, that Somers was still in great danger, as well as the rest of the family ; for the devil generally assaulted more than one of a family, and that he sometimes came in the shape of a cock, a crane, a snake, a toad, a newt, a set of dancers, or an angel, which had such an effect upon the servant girls in the town, that none of them could be induced to go into the cellars to fetch liquors.

Somers again became possessed, and, having obtained the faculty of pointing out witches, he named thirteen poor women as such, who were all committed to the gaol. Making so fortunate a trade of it himself, and as Darrel prepared the public mind for such an event, Mary Cowper, the half sister of Somers, declared herself bewitched, and pointed out Alice Freeman, sister to Alderman Freeman, who was mayor in 1606, and 1613, as her bewitching tormenter, who was likewise committed to prison. This was noble game to catch ; but it proved the ruin of the sport, and likewise of *Doctor Darrel*, the huntsman. The girl had had one child, which was dead, and, from the size of her belly, and, perhaps, from *other reasons* perfectly well understood by herself, *she thought* she was with child again ; but the *holy* Mr. Darrel said, “ If she were with child, it was “ such a child, as God bless every good body from ! ” Companies of women got about her, expecting her to be delivered of some horrid monster, at which she would laugh most immoderately, as she afterwards declared at their folly ; and when she became exhausted by laughing, and lay still, the *conjurers* about her would exclaim, “ Lord have mercy upon us, she is in a trance ! ” But the mayor, Mr. Alderman Freeman, and others, caused Somers to be removed to the workhouse, where he confessed the whole to be imposture, and declared that Darrel had instructed him in all his tricks, which he displayed before the mayor, &c. for their amusement ; and as we hear no more of Mary Cowper, except that of her confession, it is probable that her brother's confinement had a good effect upon her also.

It may be supposed by the reader, that the business would have ended here ; but Mr. Darrel was too great a hero in the field of glory to be thus cheated of his prize. He therefore thundered

out in the pulpit, that Somers's confession was a stronger proof of his possession, and that the devil and he had made a compact to obscure the glorious work of God. Fanaticism flew to Darrel's aid, and his friends were extremely industrious; and Sir John Byron calling to see Somers told him that if he were found to have been counterfeiting he deserved to be hanged. Thus pressed on one side and threatened on the other, the youth was left in suspense what to do; the Archbishop of York therefore issued a commission to a number of gentlemen and clergymen in the neighbourhood, for them to inquire into and determine the business. The day came for the investigation, and Somers had agreed to stand to his confession: he was to perform his tricks of pretended possession at the call of the mayor; but Darrel's witnesses made such an impression upon the learned members of this commission, and the audience in general, that the mayor was put out of countenance, and he neglected to call upon the youth, who, finding to his astonishment that his confession was not likely to be believed, declared that he was possessed—the commissioners declared themselves of the same opinion, and ordered him to be committed to the care of Darrel, which gave the latter a triumph, though not a very complete one. Somers now played his demoniac pranks with additional energy, and Darrel declared, as soon as the spring assizes were over, which were fast approaching, another public fast should be observed in the town for another *dispossession*; but Sir Edmund Anderson, Lord Chief Justice of the court of Common Pleas, who happened to come the circuit, determined the matter otherwise. The mayor and aldermen stated the whole case, and its manifold mischievous consequences, to his lordship, whose mind was of the proper cast for receiving the necessary impression; he therefore ordered Somers to be brought before him, who acknowledged the imposture throughout, and displayed all his tricks and desisted from them at his lordship's bidding. Darrel foamed, and raged, and prayed, but all in vain: Somers had got his fears removed: he therefore became well without an exorcist, and continued well; and the Judge represented the necessity of having a high court of commission appointed to examine fully into the affair, and to determine upon Darrel's guilt or innocence.—Accordingly the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the two Lord Chief Justices, the Master of the Requests, the Dean of the Arches, &c. were appointed to this duty. Somers and Darrel, with forty-four witnesses were taken up to London, among whom were the commissioners that had previously tried the case; and it must have been truly amusing to hear these *reverend* and *lay* gentlemen admit, *that their decision had been very much influenced by the appearance of a black dog in the room at the time*, which Somers happened to see, when he artfully called out, *a dog! a dog!* and which belonged to one Clarke, who happened to be one of the auditors.\* Suffice it further to say, that Somers stuck to the truth—his father-in-law, the vicar of St. Mary's, &c. declared their repentance for the parts they had taken—that Darrel was convicted of contriving the whole imposture; and that he was deposed from the ministry and committed to prison, there to remain till the court had determined upon his further punishment; with the nature and extent of which punishment we have not been informed by our author.

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\* Sir John Byron was one of these Gothamites!

## JAMES O'BURNS,

A celebrated ventriloquist, was a native of Ireland, but, from his having married and settled at Shelford, a few miles hence, and other circumstances, not worthy of notice, connected with his new localisation, he obtained, and was generally known by the name of *Shelford Tommy*. He passed from village to village, in his beaten circle of mendicity, always considering Nottingham his *head-quarters*, because here he met with considerable patronage from the common companies in public-houses. The labouring, and, I may truly say, many of the higher orders, were *then* amused with dog-fancying, badger-baitings, cock-fightings, blackguard combats, ventriloquists, mountebanks, &c.; but *now* the case is otherwise—in lieu of these *amusements*, which some legislators have been wicked enough to call *good*, and disgraceful enough to call *national*—in lieu of these, the labouring classes of Nottingham now think, reason, digest, and draw conclusions on questions of human right and political economy, with a precision which would have done honor to the sages a century ago. These observations will account for the success he met with here, along with his *doll*, which he used to pretend answered his numerous and silly questions. However, for the sake of giving the reader an idea of *Tommy's merits*, we will state a few of his pranks:—

One Wednesday's market, Tommy observed a girl standing with butter to sell, who looked extremely innocent, and he therefore thought *her* a fit object to make the laughing-stock of the market, to *his* advantage. Cries, similar to those made by an infant in great distress, seemed to proceed from under the girl's feet: she jumped and screamed—the supposed cries of the infant were increased with violence—the girl was seized with fits, very alarming—the market was cast into great confusion; and the *squeaking hero* was conducted to the house of correction, as a reward for his *extraordinary merits*!

Passing one day between Nottingham and Shelford, along with a mendicant companion, Tommy proposed having a little *fun* with a waggoner that was driving a team with a load of hay. The screams of a child instantly seemed to proceed from the centre of the load, when the knaves exclaimed, "you are murdering a child!" the man became dreadfully alarmed, and begged for their assistance to help to unload the hay; but they pleaded lameness and other inability, offering, however, to stop with the team while the waggoner procured assistance; he therefore flew on the wings of anxiety till he found some labouring men, who, on being told the circumstance, made equal haste to relieve the infant; nor did they discover the imposition till the waggon was empty. In the mean time the impostors had withdrawn, or, doubtless, they would have borne *evident marks* away with them of their dexterity.

Tommy being in a public-house, in Nottingham, he observed the servant girl about to dress a fish: and when she was in the act of taking off the head, (formerly a usual practice previous to cooking,) a plaintive voice seemed to proceed from the fish's mouth, saying. "*Pray dont cut my head off!*" The girl shrieked, and, for a time, stood motionless; but, at length resuming courage, she made another attempt at the fish's head, when a voice, in the same plaintive tone, exclaimed, "*What, you will cut my head off!*" The girl fled, threw down the knife, and declared she would never dress a fish more. Another time, Tommy being in a public-house where he was not known, and observing the landlady preparing for tea, he thought that a favorable opportunity for

a little mischief; accordingly, when she mashed the tea in the pot, a sound like the croaking of a toad seemed to proceed from the kettle; she, therefore, emptied both kettle and teapot; and when no toad was to be found, she said, she was certain that voice had proceeded from the devil. Is it not very probable, that the notions of witchcraft may have been very much encouraged by ventriloquists?\*

Tommy died in January, 1796; and a daughter, that sought respectability by industry, had the good sense to be ashamed of her father's course of life.

### CHARLES OLDHAM,

Was born at Glapton, a hamlet parishing to Clifton, about the year 1727, and died in Nottingham in 1802, where he had resided from his boyhood; and where, during the last fifty years of his life, he had been universally known by the name of *Whistling Charley*. It was always understood that Charles was an illegitimate offspring of one of the Clifton family; and when he was of proper age, he was apprenticed to one Daniel Watkinson, framework-knitter, in Butt-Dyke. Being, however, of a very diminutive stature, and otherwise deformed, as well as being somewhat deficient in his mental faculties, soon after he was out of his time, he took to wearing crutches, upon which he paddled about the streets to excite the commiseration of the passengers. The better to obtain this, by an excitement of public attention, he wore fantastic habiliments, with a grenadier's cap on his head, and a scrip by his side; thus equipped, he was a constant parader of the streets and visitor of public-houses; and with his *whistle*, which he always carried about with him, he was ever seeking to entertain those he approached with his inharmonious notes. He always bore with him a piece of a cow's horn, which, in silence, he would hold out to the company in public-houses for a supply of ale, and his grenadier's cap for their spare halfpence.†

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\* It has been thought that ventriloquism was a natural gift: it is now known to be easy of acquirement, like the knowledge of other juggling tricks; nor was a respectable man ever known to practice it, except to expose it to its merited ridicule.

† There is a silly and very singular character now living in the town, who, like *Whistling Charley*, will be long remembered; whose real name is Benjamin Mayo, but who is only known by the reproachful term of *General Monk*. This will serve to shew in what sort of estimation the name of that traitor and socialized barbarian is held in Nottingham; for, because this silly creature was prone to mischievous tricks when a boy, and assumed, in burlesque, the functions of a commander over other boys, he must, to be sure, be styled *General Monk*. Since the death of his mother his residence is in St. Peter's workhouse; and his practice, during many years, has been to go about the streets, without a hat, "regardless of wind and weather," in quest of any trifle he can find. But on Middleton-Mondays he appears in his element: he then collects as many children as he is able to do, and proceeds to every common day school in the town for the purpose of fetching out the scholars, at the head of whom he parades the streets; and notwithstanding the lameness in his hips, he exhibits pranks which excite as much entertainment as those displayed by a strolling mountebank. As a contrast to this, is his conduct in heading every procession of gravity or solemnity which he can get near, even those of funerals, and the Judge's going to church. Here you will see him with a grave countenance, his arms hanging loosely from his stooping body, while he measures his steps with the regularity of a soldier at exercise; and every passenger will make way for the *general*. Several useless attempts were made to induce the general to work, the naming of two of which shall suffice:—The overseers sent him to turn a wheel for a person that ground knives, &c. but when he had turned it one way about half an hour, he determined to turn it the other way, or give over; and no means could be devised to induce him to alter his determination. On another occasion he was set to weed a flower bed in a garden; and, when left to himself, he plucked up all the flowers and left the weeds. How strikingly emblematic was the conduct of this idiot, on these occasions, to the political tergiversation of his namesake, *General Monk*!

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## CHAPTER XIII.

### LOCAL AND POLITICAL EVENTS.

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**W**ERE it to be attempted in this chapter to illustrate every event of magnitude, which has taken place in Nottingham since the time in which we find it mentioned in history, it would be re-saying much that has been said in the progress of this work, and swelling it out with the particulars of most of the important events, which properly belong to the history of the country since the period alluded to ; because Nottingham, as a station of strength, of manufacture and trade, and of a noble independency of soul and of action, has stood so eminently conspicuous. We will therefore content ourselves with merely recording the more prominent circumstance which have taken place in a chronological manner, until we arrive at those events which more immediately connect themselves with our liberties as Englishmen.

The intrepid resistance which Nottingham made to the cruel inroads of the Danes in the ninth century has already been noticed. In 1068, William the First visited Nottingham ; and in 1140, the town was ravaged by the Earl of Gloucester, brother to the Empress Maud, and many of the inhabitants were burnt in the churches, where they had fled for safety. In 1152, the castle and town were taken by Duke Henry, afterwards Henry the Second, at whose death, which happened in 1189, the castle was in the hands of Earl John, who, through his rebellion against his brother, Richard the First, lost the possession, but obtained it again in 1193. But when Richard had obtained his enlargement from the disgraceful confinement to which he had been subjected among the barbarous Germans, he summoned a parliament to meet at Nottingham, to judge of the conduct of Earl John and his accomplices, when John was deprived of his estates, and declared unfit to succeed to the crown ; but, in 1195, the generous Richard granted him a free pardon, and restored him to favor.

In 1212, king John, according to Rapin, was bent upon a war against the Welch ; and, as if to put it out of the power of any man to question the baseness of his heart and the hostility of his intention, he ordered the twenty-eight Welch hostages to be hanged at Nottingham, where they had been confined ; and, at the same time and place, discharged his native troops, and engaged a company of foreign archers.

In 1330, Mortimer, Earl of March, was apprehended in the queen's apartments in Nottingham castle, at which time her son, Edward the Third, was holding a parliament in the town. In 1357, a parliament was held here, when it was enacted, that whatsoever cloth-workers of Flanders or other foreign countries would come and reside in England, might do so peaceably, and should have convenient places assigned them accordingly, with certain privileges thereunto attached ; and, that,

until they could provide for themselves, the king would be surety for what they might want. It was likewise enacted, that wool of English growth should not be exported ; and that none should wear cloth of foreign manufacture, except the king and royal family.—Is the monarch that thus sets an example in his own person and family of attachment to foreign over domestic manufactures, most worthy of a *crown* or an *axe* ?

1357. A gentleman who subscribes for this history, to whom the author is personally a stranger, has sent the following article, which he says he copied from Astle's Records of the Tower, which work, the author not having reference to, he gives the anecdote as he received it :—" There " is a curious record of pardon in the Tower of London granted to Cecily Ridgeway, who refusing " to plead guilty of murdering her husband, at Nottingham assize, A. D. 1357, was remanded " back to prison, and remained *forty days without sustenance*, for which miraculous preservation " she obtained this pardon, under the great seal of England."

In 1376, Sir Peter de la Mare, speaker of the House of Commons, was committed prisoner to Nottingham castle by Edward the Third, for having made Alice Pierce, the king's mistress, the object of his reproach for her overbearing and abandoned conduct, where he remained till the beginning of the next reign. It is worthy of remark, that, about this time, a law was passed forbidding any *common whore* to wear a hood, except it was of various colours, or any fur, except upon garments worn the wrong side outwards.

This infraction upon Magna Charta being suffered to pass with impunity, induced Richard the Second, the succeeding monarch, to root up the whole liberties of the people at one stroke, and he too chose Nottingham as the scene of action ; so dangerous it is for the people to wink at inroads being made in their liberties.

In 1387, Richard having determined to establish arbitrary power, if possible, he therefore summoned his council, composed of favorites and men imbued with the worst of crimes, to meet at Nottingham for the furtherance of his wicked views. He summoned the judges to assist him with their authority, and the sheriffs of the counties and principal citizens of London to wait upon his orders. The judges were, Robert Tresilian, Lord Chief Justice, Robert Belknap, John Holt, Roger Fulthorp, William de Burgh, and John Lockton, the king's serjeant-at-law. These mercenary lawyers (and, notwithstanding their example, the bench is not always free from such like) these worst of traitors drew up an instrument, and rendered it formal by their signatures, which declared, that the fourteen commissioners appointed by the preceding parliament, to control the public expenditure, had no right to exercise any authority, and that those who procured the commission merited death ; that those who attempted to abridge the royal prerogative were traitors ; that the king had a right to assemble and govern parliaments at his will, and if any member thereof attempted to contravene his orders, to be deemed guilty of high treason ; that the Lords and Commons had no right to impeach any of the judges or officers of state in parliament contrary to the king's will ; that the king was above the law, &c. As soon as this instrument was signed, Judge Belknap exclaimed, " Now I want nothing but a horse, a hurdle, and a halter to take me to " the gallows, which, after all, I could not possibly avoid ; for, had I not complied, I must have " died here ; and now that I have, I deserve to die for having betrayed my country." Richard



commanded the sheriffs to cause such men to be returned to the ensuing parliament as he should name ; and likewise that they should immediately set about raising soldiers to act against the opposing barons and the discontented people ; and of the citizens of London he demanded money for the furtherance of his projects ; but the citizens and sheriffs disregarded what he said, while the judges were shortly after convicted of high treason for having sacrificed the liberties of the people to the caprice of a king. Tresilian was hanged at Tyburn, and the others were permitted to exist in poverty and wretchedness, until their own guilt and degradation cut asunder the thread of life. But, as the circumstances of this affair are to be met with in every good history of the country, I shall only add, that the people, headed by the patriotic barons, were more attached to their liberties, than to the arbitrary measures of a king, or the wicked counsels of his ministers ; therefore the latter failed in their plans.

In 1392, the same thrifty monarch sent Sir William Standon, mayor of London, and William Mansfield and Thomas Newington, sheriffs thereof, prisoners to Nottingham, for that the city had refused to lend the said Richard a thousand pounds. He also removed the court of King's Bench to York, and the court of Chancery to Nottingham, where they remained until the Londoners had compromised the matter with the king, and regained their charter. In 1397, Richard summoned the peers of the realm to meet him at Nottingham on the 1st of August.

In 1461, Edward the Fourth, after having had the crown conferred upon him by the public voice, rendezvoused at Nottingham, and collected an army to support his cause, whence he marched to Newark to attack the Duke of Exeter ; but the latter retired at his approach, when the king returned, and, according to some writers, marched hence previous to the dreadful battle of Towton, where nearly 36,000 men were slain. On the 31st of March, 1470, the same Edward issued a proclamation from his court at Nottingham, denouncing the Duke of Clarence, his brother, and the Earl of Warwick, traitors and rebels. In September following, Edward again hastened to Nottingham, to collect what army he could to act against Warwick, who had become formidable through the king's numerous follies and vices. Warwick however being determined to allow the king as little time as possible to collect means of defence, he therefore proceeded from Dartmouth to within two or three miles of Nottingham, in hopes of forcing the king to an immediate battle ; but, the latter being advised by Lord Hastings of his danger, set out the same night with a slight attendance and proceeded to Lynn, where he embarked for Holland, and his army submitted to Warwick the next morning.

Richard the Third, during his short reign, chiefly held his court at Nottingham, whence he marched to meet the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry the Seventh, previous to the memorable battle of Market-Bosworth, which was fought on the 22d of August, 1485. And preparative to the battle of Stoke, which was fought on the 16th of June, 1487, in favor of the pretender, Lambert Simnel, Henry the Seventh held a council at Nottingham to determine upon the proper steps to be taken.

In 1642, the political events of this year, and their consequent termination, add much to the character of Nottingham, as an important part of the kingdom ; and to the character of the kingdom, as an important portion of the world : they were nothing less than that of the king's

hoisting the standard of war against the people ; and the people hoisting the ensigns of war against the king, which ended in the loss of his head, and the erection of a powerful commonwealth.— Charles the First arrived at Nottingham, on the 10th of July, where he attempted to strengthen his interest by all possible means of artifice and influence. He summoned the nobility, gentry, and freeholders of the county to appear before him at the castle, and to whom he made the same profession and protestations as he had just before made to the citizens of York ; which were, that he would not attempt to usurp any illegal authority ; and would support them against any such attempts in others. But his audience were more disposed to credit their *eyesight* than their *hearing* ; for, what he pledged himself not to do, they daily saw him doing ; therefore he received more promises than substantial helps. Indeed it seems singular how Charles could expect other treatment from men that preferred rational liberty to oppression, for, the day after his arrival at Nottingham, he made known his intention of reducing Hull by force of arms ; which circumstance, along with another which happened about the same time, namely, the Earl of Warwick's seizing a ship laden with warlike stores from Holland for the king's use, left no doubt of his hostile intentions, notwithstanding his professions to the contrary. A packet of letters had been seized too by Sir John Hotham, coming from the queen, the contents of which gave a full display of the plot then carrying on against the liberties of the people. And in the following September, when the Earl of Essex intreated the king, by various messages, to attend to the petition of parliament, which prayed to come to an honorable adjustment to prevent the pending miseries, he positively refused to receive the petition. The treaty, began at Uxbridge, in 1644, was broken off, because the king refused to comply with parliament's propositions respecting the militia, the freedom of religious worship, and the distracted state of Ireland. And the treaty proposed by himself the year following, when he was blocked up in Oxford, was not brought to an amicable conclusion through a timely discovery of his treachery ; for it was proved, by letters found in Lord Digby's coach at the battle of Sherborne, and others found in the pocket of a mitred warrior, slain at the battle of Sligo, that he was complotting with the monstrous authors of the Irish massacre for their *services* to be directed against the people of this country ; and that the treaty set on foot was only intended as a sham to lull the people into false security until he should find an opportunity of applying the sword to their throats. Yet, this is the *being* that hypocrisy has canonized as a saint ! Thousands have been imposed upon by false colouring and false statements respecting the views and conduct of Charles ; hence their notions in considering him a *martyr* may be traced to the honorable sympathies of the heart ; but the man that has made himself acquainted with his crimes, and then laments his end, certainly cannot be considered a friend to political and religious liberty.\*

Historians have not agreed respecting the precise time at which Charles erected his standard in support of arbitrary power, some contending that it was hoisted on the 22d of August, and others on the 25th ; and, as the question so immediately connects itself with Nottingham, I thought it worth a little inquiry. The following quotation from St. Mary's register will set the question at rest :—" On Monday, August 22d, 1642, king Charles set up his standard at the castle." A

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\* In the case of Felton, who killed Buckingham, Charles wished to revive the system of torture, to which the judges refused to assent.

maltster of this town, of the name of Samuel Lawson, stated, on the trial of Charles, that he saw the standard brought from the castle and set up in the Hill-close; that the king was present; and that, when the standard was erected, there was a proclamation made at the sound of drums and trumpets. Deering, without having seen the article in the register, very properly reconciles the business in the following words:—"This difference of time and place may easily be reconciled by the unquestionable tradition of persons yet living, who heard their fathers say, that the standard was first erected on the highest turret of the old tower; but that after a few days, people not resorting to it according to expectation, it was judged, that upon the account of the castle being a garrison, where every body had not so free access to the standard as if it was erected in an open place, it might be more proper to remove it out of the castle, which was accordingly done on the 25th of August, into the close adjoining to the north side of the wall of one of the outward of the castle, then called the Hill-close, and afterwards for many years *Standard-close*."

Deering further informs us, that, as soon as the standard was erected in Hill-close, the weather became so tempestuous as to blow it down and prevent its re-erection for several days, which caused many people to consider that heaven had declared against the royal cause. And Charles soon found, that the standard had no more charms of enticement in the *close* than it had on the *castle*; for, though he was very profuse in the distribution of promises and commissions, the people came not near him, so that at a general muster he found his supporters consist only of eleven or twelve hundred men, the far greater part of whom he had brought from the north. And had the parliament, at this time, been as active in military affairs as they were tenacious of the people's liberties, Charles would either have been made prisoner, or driven almost friendless out of the kingdom, for they had an army of considerable comparative strength within about fifty miles of Nottingham. This favorable opportunity they, however, lost; and the king left this town about the middle of September for Derby, Stafford, Leicester, and Shrewsbury, at the latter of which places he erected a mint to coin the plate into money which had been sent from the University of Oxford.

In 1643, Captain Hotham, son to Sir John Hotham, the celebrated governor of Hull, was brought prisoner to Nottingham, being charged with carrying on a correspondence with the royalists; and, after his escape, and the protection he met with from his father at Hull, they both were arrested by order of parliament and conveyed to London, where they fell victims to their own versatility. In 1645, parliament voted a thousand pounds to the Nottingham cavalry for their gallant conduct at the battle of Chester. The same year the Scottish army was at Nottingham, whence it was ordered to the siege of Newark, where it got the king into its power, and, after the surrender of Newark, marched with him to Newcastle. At this place the Scots gave up the king to the English commissioners appointed by parliament to receive him, consisting of the Earls of Pembroke and Denbigh, Lord Montague, Sir James Harrington, Sir John Holyland, Sir Walter Earl, Sir John Cook, Mr. Crew, and Mr. G. Brown, and received in consideration thereof two hundred thousand pounds, as half of the arrears due to the said army for its services. This was in 1646, and the king was marched prisoner through Nottingham on his way to Holmby-house in

Northamptonshire. From the time that Charles left Nottingham in 1642, to the day of his death, the civil authority of the town rested in the hands of a committee.

From the death of the king the events connected with Nottingham merit no notice here, except those already related under other heads, until we arrive at that epoch, the mere mention of which makes every patriotic heart palpitate with joy; and in the events of which it was destined for Nottingham to take so conspicuous a part. The conduct of James the Second, being truly characteristic of a *Stuart*, had driven the people to the necessity of recurring to the first principles of political power, namely, that of choosing a government after their own liking; and the first *open* act for revolutionizing the state, took place at Nottingham on the 23d of November, 1688, by the issuing of the following declaration:—

“We the nobility, gentry, and commonality, of these northern countries, assembled at Nottingham  
 “for the defence of the laws, religion and properties, according to the freeborn liberties and  
 “privileges descended to us from our ancestors, as the undoubted birthright of the subjects of this  
 “kingdom of England, (not doubting but the infringers and invaders of our rights will represent  
 “us to the rest of the nation in the most malicious dress they can put upon us) do here unanimously  
 “think it our duty to declare to the rest of our protestant fellow subjects, the grounds of our  
 “present undertaking.

“We by innumerable grievances made sensible that the very fundamentals of our religion,  
 “liberties, and properties, are about to be rooted out by a jesuitical privy council, as it has been  
 “of late too apparent. 1st. By the king’s dispensing with all the established laws at his pleasure.  
 “2d. By displacing all officers out of all offices of trust and advantage, and placing others in their  
 “room that are known papists, deservedly made incapable by the established laws of this land.—  
 “3d. By destroying the charters of most corporations in the land. 4th. By discouraging all  
 “persons that are not papists, and preferring such as turn to popery. 5th. By displacing all  
 “honest and conscientious men judges, unless they would contrary to their consciences, declare  
 “that to be law which was merely arbitrary. 6th. By branding all men with the name of rebels  
 “that but offered to justify the laws in a legal course against arbitrary proceedings of the king, or  
 “any of his corrupt ministers. 7th. By burthening the nation with an army, to maintain the  
 “violation of the rights of the subject, and by discountenancing the established religion. 8th. By  
 “forbidding the subjects the benefit of petitioning, and construing them libellers, so rendering the  
 “laws a nose of wax, to serve their arbitrary ends, and many more such like, too long here to  
 “enumerate.

“We being thus made sensible of the arbitrary and tyrannical government, that is by the  
 “influence of jesuistical counsels coming upon us, do unanimously declare, that not being willing  
 “to deliver our posterity over to such a condition of popery and slavery, as the aforesaid oppressions  
 “do inevitably threaten; we will to the utmost of our power, oppose the same, by joining with the  
 “prince of Orange (whom we hope God Almighty has sent to rescue us from the oppressions  
 “aforesaid) and will use our utmost endeavours for the recovery of our almost ruined laws, liberties,  
 “and religion, and herein we hope all good protestant subjects, will, with their lives and fortunes,  
 “be assistant to us, and not be bugbeared with the opprobrious terms of rebels, by which they

“ would affright us to become perfect slaves to their tyrannical insolences and usurpations ; for we  
 “ assure ourselves that no rational and unbiassed person will judge it rebellion to defend our laws  
 “ and religion, which all our princes have at their coronation sworn to do ; which oath, how well  
 “ it hath been observed of late, we desire a free parliament may have the consideration of.

“ We own it rebellion to resist a king that governs by law ; and he was always accounted a  
 “ tyrant that made his will the law, and to resist such a one we justly esteem no rebellion, but a  
 “ necessary defence ; and on this consideration we doubt not of all honest men’s assistance ; and  
 “ humbly hope for, and implore the great God’s protection, who turneth the hearts of his people  
 “ as pleaseth him best, it having been observed that people can never be of one mind without his  
 “ inspiration, which has in all ages confirmed that observation : *Vox populi vox Dei*.

“ The present restoring the charters, and reversing the oppressing and unjust judgment given  
 “ on the fellows of Magdalen college, is plain, are but to still the people, like plumbs to children,  
 “ by deceiving them for a while ; but if they shall by this stratagem be fooled, till this present  
 “ storm that threatens the papists be passed, as soon as they shall be resettled, the former oppression  
 “ will be put on with greater vigour ; but we hope, in vain is the net spread in the sight of the  
 “ birds : For the papist old rule is, that faith is not to be kept with hereticks, as they term  
 “ protestants, though the popish religion is the greatest heresy : And queen Mary’s so ill observing  
 “ her promises to the Suffolk men, that helped her to the throne, and above all the pope’s dispensing  
 “ with the breach of oaths, treaties, or promises at his pleasure, when it makes for the holy church,  
 “ as they term ; these we say are such convincing reasons to hinder us from giving credit to the  
 “ aforesaid mock shews of redress, that we think ourselves bound in conscience to rest on no  
 “ security that shall not be approved by a freely elected parliament, to whom under God we refer  
 “ our cause.”

Among the exalted characters that signed this Declaration were, the Earl of Devonshire, the Earl of Stamford, Lord Howe, Lord Delamere, and Charles Hutchinson, Esq. half brother to Colonel Hutchinson, who bought the Owthorp estate of the Colonel’s widow. Lord Delamere was son to Sir George Booth, whose life had been saved by the generosity of our renowned Colonel, and who had contributed to save the latter’s life, in return, at the restoration.—Princess, afterwards Queen, Anne, was among the worthies at this town on the memorable occasion we are speaking of; she having made her escape from Whitehall for that purpose, and was conducted hither by the Bishop of London, the Earl of Dorset, &c.

The following postscript to a letter, written by Edward Roberts, secretary to James, and which is dated the 20th of November, and directed to George Langford, Esq. mayor of this town, will shew the cowardly shifts a tyrant has recourse to, when he dreads the consequence of his crimes : it is in the following words :—“ P. S. By the account from Salisbury, of this day’s date, we are  
 “ informed that upon the muster of the three regiments that were drawn towards the Prince of  
 “ Orange, there wanted not above an hundred men ; we hear, likewise, that the Lord Delamere,  
 “ with seven other lords in confederacy, are raising forces to join the Prince of Orange, and that  
 “ they intend to rendezvous at Nottingham, of which I thought fit to advise you, and to desire  
 “ you to use all your endeavours to *prevent the dissenters concurrence with them ; they have*

“ *hitherto kept themselves free, and 'tis certainly their duty and interest so to do* : it may be of very ill consequence if the magistracy of your town countenance them ; as any thing falls out worthy of communication, let me hear from you, as you shall from me, how matters go.”\*

Mr. Langford saw through James's fears and hypocrisy, as he had previously seen through his crimes ; and, instead of attending to his intreaties, he contributed all in his power to his dethronement.

To shew the temper and disposition of the inhabitants of Nottingham at that time, we will give the following quotation from Deering, which every man in the British empire, and particularly every Nottingham man, ought to be in possession of, and hold in high veneration :—

“ There are men still living in this town who well remember, that above ten days before the foregoing declaration was made public, the Duke of Devonshire, the Earl of Stamford, the Lord Howe, and other noblemen, and abundance of gentry of the county of Nottingham, resorted to this town, and went to meet one another at their respective inns, daily increasing in number, and continued at Nottingham till the arrival of Lord Delamere, with between 4 and 500 horse ; this nobleman quartered at the Feathers inn,† whither all the rest of the noblemen and gentlemen came to meet him ; and till this time the people of the town were unacquainted with the result of these frequent consultations, when the above-mentioned lord, after he had staid a while in the town, having a mind to try the disposition of the populace, on a sudden ordered the trumpets to sound to arms, giving out that the king's forces were within four miles of Nottingham, whereupon the whole town was in alarm, multitudes who had horses mounted and accoutred themselves with such arms as they had, whilst others in vast numbers on foot appeared, some with fire-locks, some with swords, some with other weapons, even pitchforks not excepted ; and being told of the necessity of securing the passage over the Trent, they immediately drew all the boats that then were near at hand, to the north bank of that river, and with them, and some timber and boards on the wharf, with barrels and all the frames of the market-stalls, barricaded the north side of the Trent. My Lord Delamere and his party, well pleased with the readiness of the people to give their assistance, his lordship sent his men and some officers to the Prince of Orange, but himself, with a few officers, staid till the next day, being Saturday, which is the principal market-day, when he, the Duke of Devonshire, the Lord Howe, &c. appeared at the Malt-cross, and in the face of a full market, the Lord Delamere, in a speech, declared to the people, the danger their religion and liberty were in under the arbitrary proceedings of the king, and that Providence had sent his Highness the Prince of Orange, under God, to deliver them from popery and slavery, for which reason, according to the prince his declaration, they were for a free parliament, and hoped their concurrence ; this was seconded by a speech of the Duke of Devonshire, and also of the Lord Howe, which was followed by the shouts of the people, who cried out ‘ *a free parliament ! a free parliament !* ’ This done, Lord Delaware departed to follow his troops, whilst the duke, and Lord Howe, made it known that they were for raising

\* If Roberts understood *politics* no better than he did *composition*, no wonder at his having belonged to the losing side:

† The Feather's inn is now a private house, and stands near the top, and on the west side of Wheeler-gate.

“ horse in defence of their liberty, and would list such as were willing to be entertained, whereupon “ upwards of an hundred men, who offered themselves, were entered that same day.”

How the heart gladdens, with the retrospect, when we contrast the conduct of the inhabitants of Nottingham towards Charles, when he appealed to them *in support of arbitrary power*, and towards the above patriotic noblemen and gentlemen when they appealed to them *against arbitrary power, and in support of the primeval rights of man!*—they were *dead* to the orders of despotism, and *alive* to the calls of liberty!—the one stunned them with its senseless clatter and somnolent hum, and the other roused them to generous action by its charms and its cheers!

Though the triumph of liberty was complete, as far as the people's right to change a bad government for a good one was concerned, yet in Nottingham, as in many other places, prejudice brooded over the embers of despotism, and in 1715, the nearly smothered flame burst forth here in a very remarkable manner; for Thomas Hawksley, then mayor of the town, was committed to the house of correction by one of his brother magistrates, on the oath of one *Mather*, *for having drank success to the pretender, on his bare knees in his own house* :\* he was also divested of his magisterial authority, and another alderman was immediately invested with the office of mayor.—This mad jacobite instituted three suits against the magistrate that signed his commitment, with the hope of recovering damages for false imprisonment; but the only recompense he got was that of having to pocket the disgrace, and to pay the costs, which amounted to more than two thousand pounds.

While Mr. Hawksley lay in *durance vile* he was visited by all the jacobite quality within many miles, who congratulated him for having so boldly asserted the cause of their absent idol. The bed whereon he slept in prison was made of green damask, and the curtains belonging to it were afterwards partly converted into a flag, which was long after borne about by the high church party, as they called themselves, on public political occasions. This circumstance, however, gave a death blow to the influence of that party in the corporation.

Mr. Hawksley was a descendant of a Norman family that settled here at the conquest, and during ages followed the business of malting. His picture, as taken in his magisterial robes, was in the possession of his grand-nephew, the late Mr. John Hawksley, whom we have previously had occasion to mention: it was in a high state of preservation; and the writer hereof, along with the gentleman that possessed it and from whom these particulars were principally obtained, have often viewed it with a mixture of admiration and disgust.

In 1724, in the night of the 7th of February the office of Mr. Henry Morris, town clerk, in St. Mary's-gate, took fire, when many original and otherwise valuable records were consumed belonging to the corporation.

In 1736, during the month of May *one hundred and four* persons were buried in St. Mary's parish that had died of the small pox, and proportionate numbers died in the other two parishes.

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\* Mr. Hawksley, at the time, was proprietor and occupier of a house, long known as the Eagle and Child inn, at the north-west corner of Chapel-bar; and, to commemorate the event, the date of the year was engraven upon one of the stones with which the building is embellished, and which is to be seen at the present time.

In 1739, a spirited address to the representatives of the town was sent from the electors, instructing the former to vote against placemen and pensioners sitting in the House of Commons, which article contained a well written description of the evils resulting to the country from such vermin being permitted to sit in that house, and that too contrary to a positive law passed in the reign of queen Anne.

In 1745, Nottingham took but little share in supporting the government against the rebellion which was raised this year, under the immediate command of Charles Stuart, the pretender to the throne, except that of furnishing recruits for the *Duke of Kingston's light horse*; three butchers among whom, it is said, slew fourteen of the enemy in the battle Culloden.

From this regiment bearing the above distinctive name, it has been generally thought that it was raised at the expense of that nobleman; but the following list of the principal subscribers, with the sums annexed, will shew the fallacy of such an opinion:—

His Grace the Duke of Kingston	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	£1000	0
His Grace the Duke of Newcastle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1000	0
His Grace the Duke of Norfolk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	210	0
Right Honorable Earl Fitzwilliam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	0
Right Honorable Lord Byron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	210	0
Right Honorable Lord Middleton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400	0
Right Honorable Lord Robert Sutton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	0
Right Honorable Lord Howe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	0
Lady Howe, senior	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	0
Honorable John Mordaunt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	0
Sir George Savile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	157	10
John Thornhaugh, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	157	10
Lord Charles Cavendish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	0
William Livioz, Esq.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	0
Sir Charles Molyneux	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	0
Right Honorable Countess of Oxford	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	0

Abel Smith, Esq. banker, of this town, was treasurer; and the total amount of the subscription he received was £8526 10s. 6d.; and, when the whole expenses of the regiment were discharged, there remained a balance in Mr. Smith's hands, which enabled the managers of the fund to make a dividend of seven shillings in the pound to the subscribers.

In the Northampton Mercury of the 28th of October, 1745, we find the following letter:—

“ Nottingham, October 13, 1745.

“ Last night came in here 72 carriages belonging to the artillery, 18 baggage waggons, 16  
“ cannons, 2 mortars, 200 mattresses, 500 Dutch, and 200 English foot, with Wade's regiment of  
“ horse complete. The artillery lay all night in the Market-place, where thousands flocked to see  
“ it. This morning they set forward for the north. The horse marched with their scull-caps and  
“ breastplates on, their swords new ground, and every thing in order as if they were to have  
“ engaged the enemy directly.”

In 1749, a remarkable storm of hail fell in this town and neighbourhood on the 15th of May, which did considerable damage, many of the stones measuring four inches in circumference.



In 1755, the northern lights, or *Aurora Borealis*, were first recorded as having been seen hereabouts. The first account we find of these meteorological phenomena is given by Matthew of Westminster, in the following words :—" On the first of January, 743, certain fiery streamers " were seen in the air, such as men, then living, had never beheld before." We read in other authors of these phenomena appearing in 1574, 1707, 1716, and 1737. They were also seen very frequently about the beginning of the American war, when superstition converted them into forerunners of disastrous events. The height of these meteors from the earth has been computed by the Marquis Polini and M. Marian to be 464 English miles.

Various philosophers have endeavoured to account for the appearance of these meteors ; but the theory presented by Dr. Franklin to the Academy of Sciences at Paris in 1779, has been the most generally assented to, and which is, *that these meteors spring from the action of congregated particles of electricity*. The following extract from the Doctor's paper on this subject will tend to illustrate the position :—" The great quantity of vapour rising between the tropics, forms clouds, " which contain much electricity ; some of them fall in rain, before they come to the polar regions. " Every drop brings down some electricity with it ; the same is done by snow or hail, and the " electricity so descending, in temperate climates, is received and imbibed by the earth. If the " clouds are not sufficiently discharged by this gradual operation, they sometimes discharge " themselves suddenly by striking into the earth, where the earth is fit to receive their electricity. " The earth in temperate and warm climates is generally fit to receive it, being a good conductor.

" The humidity contained in all the equatorial clouds that reach the polar regions, must there " be condensed, and fall in snow. The great cakes of ice that eternally cover those regions may " be too hard frozen to permit the electricity, descending with that snow, to enter the earth. It " may therefore be accumulated upon that ice. The atmosphere being heavier in the polar " regions than in the equatorial, will be lower, as well from that cause, as from the smaller effect " of the centrifugal force : consequently the distance of the vacuum above the atmosphere will be " less at the poles than elsewhere, and probably much less than the distance (upon the surface of the " globe) extending from the pole to those latitudes in which the earth is so thawed as to receive " and imbibe electricity. May not then the great quantity of electricity brought into the polar " regions by the clouds, which are condensed there, and fall in snow, which electricity would enter " the earth, but cannot penetrate the ice ; may it not, as a bottle overcharged, break through that " low atmosphere, and run along in the vacuum over the air towards the equator ; diverging as the " degrees of longitude enlarge ; strongly visible where densest, and becoming less visible as it " more diverges ; till it finds a passage to the earth in more temperate climates, or is mingled with " upper air ? If such an operation of nature were really performed, would it not give all the " appearance of an *Aurora Borealis* ? And would not the Auroras become more frequent after " the approach of winter ; not only because more visible in longer nights, but also because in " summer the long presence of the sun may soften the surface of the great ice cakes, and render " them conductors, by which the accumulation of electricity in the polar regions will be prevented, " in this season of the year." Admitting the Doctor's hypothesis to be a just one, (and it certainly bears the strongest evidence which deduction from philosophical principles can produce,) it will

follow, as a natural conclusion, that, in proportion as electric matter is borne down by elementary concretions upon those vast fields of ice, which occupy so large a space in the polar regions; and, as they are rendered conducting bodies by the heat of the sun, or repellant ones by the intensity of the frost, so the meteors we are speaking of will be more or less visible.

1761. Tuesday, the 22d of September being the day appointed for the coronation of George the Third, and Charlotte, his consort, the inhabitants of Nottingham joined in the national festivity. The morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells; and at ten o'clock a vast concourse of people attended divine service at St. Mary's, where a coronation anthem (composed by Mr. Wise the organist) was sung by a large choir of performers, accompanied by an excellent band of music.—Service being over, the company retired to the Market-place, when a large company proceeded from the Exchange-hall, and paraded the principal streets, with music playing and streamers waving, at the head of which were the mayor and aldermen in their robes, and the sheriffs, chamberlains, and common council in their corporate habiliments; these were followed by the clergy, in their canonicals; and these again by gentlemen of horseback, &c. The above were attended by a distinct company, consisting of all the woolcombers in the town, then pretty numerous, who had streamers and a band of music of their own. The members of this fuddling fraternity were uniformly dressed in *Holland shirts*, black breeches, white stockings, and wool wigs, with sashes and cockades also of wool; and one of the *order* on horseback represented the famous Bishop Blaze in his episcopal robes; this *right reverend mimic* making occasional halts to display his *oratorical powers*. About two o'clock the company divided into parties, some going to the inns, &c. and others retiring to arbors which had been erected in the streets for the purpose of convivial enjoyment; collections having been made among the wealthy with which to regale the indigent; and several sheep were roasted whole on the occasion. At night the town was splendidly illuminated, and there was an exhibition of fire-works in the Market-place.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE MILITIA —The London Gazette of the 20th of December, 1759, contained an invitation, signed *Holles Newcastle*, to the gentlemen of the county to meet at Mansfield, on the 8th of January following, to receive commissions to serve as officers in the militia, then in expectation of being raised; and also an invitation to the gentlemen of the town to meet at Nottingham the succeeding day for the same purpose. But the parties concerned chose to pay the conditional fine rather than raise the regiment, which they continued to do till the year 1775, when the Nottinghamshire militia were embodied. And they were first marched out of this town on Whit-Wednesday and Thursday, being the 10th and 11th of June, 1778, their route being for Hull. This regiment first beat up for recruits in this town on the 15th of June, 1809.

In May, 1762, a framework-knitter residing in the neighbourhood, bought a piece of veal in our shambles, took it home, and ordered his wife to roast it for dinner by twelve o'clock, which she did accordingly; but, he not coming home at the time, she set it by untouched. At four o'clock the husband came home and brought a beef steak, which he ordered to be dressed for his dinner, saying he should prefer it to the veal at that time. This order the wife also obeyed; but, when he had eaten part of the steak, feeling himself unwell, he inquired what she had fryed it in, to which she answered, "the veal dripping." "Then," said he, "I am a dead man; for, having a mind to

"poison you, I rubbed the veal over with arsenic." The wretch, in the utmost agony of body and mind, expired shortly afterwards. What a just retribution upon the monster that could deliberately plan and covertly attempt the murder of the altar-consecrated half of himself! What a proof of divine interposition and justice! What a lesson to the vicious hearted among mankind!

In June, 1764, Nottingham and its vicinity were visited with the most tremendous storm of thunder and lightning ever remembered by the oldest inhabitant then living; and the succeeding month was as remarkable for the heavy, and almost incessant fall of rain. But the most distinguished local occurrence of this year was the riot which took place at the great October fair about the high price of cheese, which to this day is called *the great cheese riot*. The farmers asked from *twenty-eight to thirty shillings per hundred*, which so exasperated the people that their violence burst forth like a torrent—cheeses were rolled down Wheeler-gate and Peck-lane, in abundance; many others were carried away; and the mayor, in his anxiety to restore peace, was knocked down with one in the open fair. The fifteenth regiment of dragoons, or "Elliott's light horse,"\* were sent for; and, by their officious and mischievous conduct, they acquired the hatred of Nottingham, the consequence of which many of them *felt*. One man, William Egglestone of Car-Colston, while on his duty tending the cheese (as is customary for men to do on the part of the owners after the close of day) was killed on the spot, and the lives of many more peaceable characters were endangered by the firing of a party of these cowardly savages who were headed by a *corporal* of the name of *Rouse*, a native of the town. But why such a laxity of command among the officers; or whether this wretch was ordered to parade about with a few men as a measure of precaution, I cannot pretend to say; certain it is however, that many men were imprisoned on suspicion of being concerned in the riot, but who were afterwards liberated by the magistrates, principally on the ground of clemency.

In 1769, died Mrs. Butler, aged 92. It is remarkable that this lady resided, during the whole of her long life in Narrow-marsh, her family giving the name to a court in that street.

1770, in April, much rejoicing took place here on account of the liberation of the celebrated John Wilkes, Esq. from the King's Bench prison, after the repeated prosecutions and persecutions he had undergone for having advocated the people's rights; particularly in having established the illegality of *general warrants*, in a verdict which he obtained against Wood, under secretary of state, with £1000 damages, for entering, or causing his house to be entered without a specific warrant; and by another verdict he obtained against Lord Halifax, secretary of state, with £4000 damages, for having seized upon his papers by the same illegal means.

Many years previous to this time, the bakers of this town had been permitted by the corporation to stack their oven fuel upon Tollhouse-hill, where the Lambley hospitals, &c. now stand, which fuel consisted principally of gorse. During this summer, the whole range was set on fire and consumed; and, as the conflagration raged chiefly in the night, great alarm was excited many miles around, till the truth was fully known.

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\* It is worthy of remark, that this regiment was formed out of the Duke of Kingston's light horse in the year 1746.

In June this year, one Dominick Lazarus walked twenty-five times round the race ground in ten hours and three quarters for a wager of four guineas, which was thought an extraordinary performance, the distance being something more than fifty miles.

In 1777, as some workmen were digging on Standard-hill, they found a number of human bones, in a high state of preservation, along with a dagger, and a piece of silver and a piece of copper coin, the legend on the latter of which was, *Thomas Cheshire, at the King's Head, Fore-street, 1669, his halfpenny*. By what fortuitous circumstance this *token* found its way into the sanctuary of these bones, it would be a folly now to attempt to conjecture, as from the name of the street upon it, it was probably issued in London. As to the bones, along with others found when Standard-hill was built upon, there is little doubt of their having lain there ever since the time when the admirable Hutchinson commanded the castle.

1782. In the summer of this year, a boy of thirteen years of age, whose name was Thomas Hudson, fell from a projectment of the castle rock into one of the gardens below, without receiving any material injury, though he fell at least an hundred feet: he was gathering gilliflowers, which used to grow plentifully upon the rock.

On the 30th of July, 1784, a catastrophe took place which caused great mourning and consternation: the Wilford ferry-boat was upset with eleven market-people on board, six of whom were drowned.

In August, 1785, the large mace, borne before the mayor at all corporate processions, was stolen out of the house of the late Mr. William Howitt, (then mayor,) on Beastmarket-hill. The mace was suffered to hang in one of the front rooms on the ground floor, and therefore, as it could be seen by the common passengers, it was pointed out as an object of cupidity by two wicked and designing characters, one of whom was afterwards admitted evidence against the other. The window shutters of the room were put together during the setting-in of the evening by one of the depredators, as was very probably suspected, which caused them to remain unsecured in the inside, because the circumstance escaped the notice of the servants. Therefore the entrance was quite easy; and so eager were the plunderers of their prize, that they omitted to carry off two hundred pounds worth of plate, which was in a cupboard near to where the mace hung. The thieves were detected in consequence of their not knowing how to separate the gold from the silver, after the whole had been melted down; and James Shipley was subsequently convicted of the burglary, and was sentenced to seven years transportation; but he made his escape from the coach which was conveying him to Portsmouth, and, after many adventures, made his way into France, where he staid till after the revolution, and then returned to Nottingham.

In 1788, on the 12th of May a serious riot took place, on account of the high price of butchers' meat; the doors and shutters in the shambles were taken into the Market-place and burnt, along with many of the butchers' books; and much meat was carried away. The temperate and conciliatory interference of the magistrates soon put an end to these results of error and despair.

The 7th of June, Lieutenant Bright, of the Nottinghamshire militia, having spent the evening with his brother officers, retired to his lodgings on the Long-row, when, having been in his sleeping

room, as was supposed, some time, suspicion arose in the house *that all was not right* ; and, on some persons entering the room, he was found in a state of insensibility and enveloped in flames, the misfortune having occurred, as was generally believed, from his having sat down, after he was undressed for bed, by which means the candle and his linen came in contact. It was remarked at the time, that he had recently introduced into the town the, since, universal fashion of wearing braces to the breeches ; and that, probably, these obstructed his disengaging himself from the flames.

1791, during the summer, was played, what is called, *the great cricket match*, which was thus occasioned. A Colonel Churchill happening to be quartered here with his regiment, was struck with the superior activity of the Nottingham cricketplayers ; added, to which, their fame was already up by having won several matches. The colonel sent a challenge to the Mary-le-bonne club to play for a considerable sum ; which challenge being accepted, eleven noblemen and gentlemen, with the Earl of Winchelsea at their head, came to Nottingham to play. But, notwithstanding the Nottingham players excited the admiration and applause of their opponents, they had no chance of success, as the system of playing adopted by the Mary-le-bonne club was that which is now in use, and with which the Nottingham men were till then unacquainted.

In the autumn of this year, a riot took place in Nottingham, which would scarcely have been worth notice, had it not been for the whimsicality of the result. Some measure being about to be adopted by the principal hosiers inimical to the two-needle stocking-makers, about two hundred of whom therefore met in the town, at an appointed time, from the neighbouring villages, some coming twelve or fifteen miles. When they were assembled in the Market-place, deputies were chosen to form a committee, and a party, consisting of four or five, was sent to wait upon Mr. Mark Huish, in St. James's-street, he being considered the leader and director among the hosiers. This circumstance drew many of the countrymen to the outside of his house and warehouse, in the hope of hearing " glad tidings " announced from his door ; but this conduct Mr. Huish placed to a riotous and intimidating account, and accordingly applied to the mayor (Mr. John Fellows, who died the succeeding year,) for military protection. At this time a part, if not the whole, of the regiment then universally known by the appellation of *Troopers, or Oxford Blues*, lay here ; a party of which was accordingly sent to protect Mr. Huish's person and property, a post which *these lubberly heroes of the trencher* seemed very proud of. After their arrival, the conference between Mr. Huish and the stocking-makers was soon ended, to the dissatisfaction of the latter ; and while one of the persons, who had waited upon Mr. Huish, was detailing the nature and result of the conference to his fellow-workmen that listened to him from the steps of the Malt-cross, a party of the blues assailed the people, thus assembled, with drawn swords, and rode over the steps of the cross ; the riot act having been previously read. This circumstance, though no doubt intended to *prevent a riot*, was the cause of immediately *creating one* ; for, though the countrymen were dispersed, they were joined in every direction by groups of townsmen, who ran towards the scene of action from curiosity ; and shouting and derision were heard on every side. Night closed in with settled darkness—the lamps were lighted—the troopers dashed about well-armed—irritation increased on both sides—the lamps in Chapel-bar were all broken—the *heroes* were

assailed with a shower of stones ; and, pursuing their flying assailants up Chapel-bar, they found themselves most unexpectedly arrested in their *progress of victory by a waggon placed across the top of that street*. Suffice it further to say, that a few *heads* and windows were broken ; and that the troopers ensured to themselves the hatred and contempt of the working men, both of the town and county, the consequences of which they *felt* most severely during the winter, *for it was customary to see them with their faces as dark coloured as their coats*. At length an order came for their removal ; and, as the time of their going became known, and as they had to go down Hollow-stone, which was then very narrow, the people planted themselves on the top of the rock well provided with *night soil* in vessels, from the privies, with which they plentifully supplied the troopers as they passed below. Henceforth, wherever they went, they were called *the \*\*\*\*\* troopers*.

We have now arrived at a period when it is necessary to detail circumstances in our local transactions which will require a very great share of prudence to prevent the spirit of party from disfiguring the fair page of the historian. Truth, however, shall be given to the utmost of my power in obtaining it ; and if, in detailing the outrages committed against law and individual safety, some expressions of warmth should escape me, the reader will bear in mind, that, in order to be a faithful historian, it is not necessary that the man who assumes that character should give up the principles of patriotism and many other noble passions of the heart.

The blaze of opinion, which sprung from the American and French revolutions, had made a great alteration in the political disposition of the people of England ; and no where more so than in Nottingham. The town was divided into two hostile parties, under the appellations of *democrats* and *aristocrats* ; the *former* considering *delegated authority as the only legal power*, and titles of nobility as so many excrescences upon the body politic which ought to be cut off ; while the *latter* abandoned their rights as brother members of a community, and made unconditional submission to the will of the king, the nobility, and clergy the controlling article of their faith. Patriotism, in the natural acceptation of the word, became extinct for a time ; for the democrats prayed for the overthrow of the arms of royalty wherever they might be engaged, or to whatever kingdom or empire they might belong ; and the aristocrats prayed for the destruction of the friends of democracy, without ever considering the cause in which they were engaged. Both parties were guilty of treason against the English constitution, as far as intention can constitute treason ; the one against the liberties of the people, and the other against the aristocracy and the crown. But, however much at variance were the principles of these parties, their local practice was equally so ; for while the democrats sought by every persuasive means, and by the circulation of political pamphlets to gain proselites, (in which they were very successful) their opponents became proportionately angry and revengeful ; the latter of which passions manifested itself so early as December, 1792, when an incendiary letter was sent to Mrs. Carter, who kept the Sun inn, in Pelham-street, the principal resort at that time of the democrats, threatening to burn her house, &c. if she continued to entertain them. This letter had no other effect than that of exciting disgust and exertion, and the winter and spring passed with mutual recrimination and street squabbles.

The war against the rising republic of France had now been determined on by the British

ministers—they dreaded the progress which republican opinions were making, because of their ready commixture with the principles long entertained and industriously propagated by the most enlightened part of the British public in favor of an equal representation of the people: they therefore, with William Pitt at their head, who had long been considered the champion of English reformists, now became the focus of a monarchial European combination, for the purpose of stopping the growth of political opinions; and the restoration to the throne of France of the long detested family of the Bourbons was made their *sine qua non*. And ministers, in order to obtain public opinion in favor of their project, caused the pulpits and as much of the public press as they could purchase and control, to teem with invectives against republicans and reformists; with open declarations, except the Bourbons were restored, that monarchy, aristocracy, and the established religion of this country must all fall together. The fallacy and iniquity of the measures being seen through by many most respectable characters, whose habits were those of peace, and whose political opinions were founded on rational liberty, and consequently on the pure principles of the English constitution; they therefore, though they hitherto had not mixed in the political circles of the day, now saw it a duty they owed to their country and to the well being of mankind in general, to make a constitutional effort to stem the fatal torrent which was then flowing to break down every barrier of human liberty, that universal despotism might be established on their ruins.—PEACE WAS THEIR OBJECT; AND THE GUARANTEE OF THE SACRED AND FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE, THAT ONE NATION HAS NO RIGHT TO INTERFERE WITH THE INTERNAL CONCERNS OF ANOTHER. [O, that the efforts of these worthies had been successful! what a mass of misery would then have been spared to the human race!] On an occasion of this sort, Nottingham was sure to be among the foremost of the provincial towns; and twenty-six gentlemen, of the description just given, signed a requisition to the mayor, calling upon him to further, by the constitutional means in his power, a petition from the town founded on the premises above named.\* This conduct, by the more violent and ignorant of the war party, was considered little short of treason, and these patriots were secretly marked out as victims to their vengeance. We say, *by the more violent and ignorant of the war party*; because it ought ever to be borne in mind, that many in this town, that, most likely, from mistaken opinions and over-hasty conclusions, had become advocates of the Bourbon-restoring system, were directly averse to the disgraceful measures pursued by the misguided and enfuried men, that circumstances caused to be ranked as belonging to *their party*,

The first victim marked out for sacrifice at the altar of ignorance was the late Mr. Joseph Oldknow, alderman, who resided at the top of the piazzas on the Long-row; and, in August, 1793, his house was assailed in the open day with stones, &c. by an enfuried mob. Mr. Oldknow was a gentleman not to be trifled with—he remonstrated, but in vain—he told his assailants what they might expect as a consequence of their outrageous conduct, for which they vomited forth volleys of

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\* The twenty-six gentlemen above alluded to, subscribed the address in the following order:—John Wright—William Rawson—Thomas Rawson—Francis Hart—Samuel Statham—Roger Hunt—Thomas W. Watson—T. Smith—Charles Pennington—Francis Evans—John Fellows—John Thomson—F. Wakefield—J. Hancock—Thomas Hawksley—Robert Denison—Thomas Oldknow—Henry Hollins—S. Huthwaite—Joseph Oldknow—George Coldham—Joseph Lowe—B. Aldis—N. Clayton—W. Howitt—W. Huthwaite.

abuse and discharged fresh volleys of stones: he then discharged the contents of a blunderbuss among them, which killed one man, and wounded six or seven. This resolute and constitutional proceeding of Mr. Oldknow in defence of his property and his life, had the effect of immediately stopping the progress of these daring violators of the law for a time; as no more mischief, of any material consequence, was committed this year, though much was in contemplation. But what a dreadful state had the enfuried passions of men led them to, when nothing short of the *last* means of self-defence, *which an Englishman holds in right from the constitution*, could convince these depredators of their error! And if ever the time should arrive that Englishmen shall be deprived of that right, they will have ceased to be any thing, except the slaves of oppression and the cruel and passive instruments of its vengeance; when, the sooner the name of their country is blotted from the list of nations, the better for the rest of mankind.\*

The succeeding winter, like the preceding one, passed with mutual disquietude between the parties; and the spring (which unfolds scenes of peace, happiness, and love, except in the bosom of unsocial man,) but added to the passions of irritation. Government had proclaimed, that opinions hostile to monarchy were making a rapid progress among the people; and they called upon those "that loved the church and king" to arm in their defence, which was done with avidity throughout the country.† A few of the democrats of Nottingham formed a resolution of learning the military discipline, and early in a morning repaired to Snenton plain for the purpose, where they were drilled by an experienced character; and, for want of muskets, they used sticks, which were sarcastically called *wooden guns*. This measure, though it injured no man, was extremely indiscreet, considering times and circumstances; for though every Englishman is constitutionally considered a defender of his country, and is liable to be called upon and armed at any hour to repel invasion, or suppress insurrection, which naturally implies both a right and necessity of learning the use of arms; and though every Englishman has a right to possess fire-arms and to *use* them in defence of his person, family, and property, under any circumstances of peril; yet, as the professions of the democrats were founded on the dissemination of information and maxims of self-defence, the measure in question was unnecessary, and also extremely impolitic, because it furnished their enemies with the means of charging the whole peace party with deception and dangerous intentions, inasmuch as some of them were learning the use of arms, without the sanction of government. If these men had purchased arms, instead of wasting their time in learning their use when they had them not, the subsequent mischief might have been prevented; for the ruffianly cowards that composed the *ducking mobs* took especial care not to assail those houses which they knew were protected with arms. The friends of war now appear to have begun preparations for

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\* Since the above article was prepared for the press, I found, on re-examining a gentleman's letter to me on the subject of these outrages, the following memorandum:---"The town was disgraced by a most violent riot, on the 24th July, 1793: the bloodhounds of war were upon the hunt in every direction. During these transactions, the writer of this letter was eye-witness to two young men, *with ropes about their necks*, in the middle of a ferocious mob dragging them to the pump. He also witnessed the distribution of money among the mob from the windows of respectable houses."

† The town of Nottingham raised one troop of yeomanry cavalry this year (1794) and the county raised three troops; the whole under the command of Anthony Hardolph Eyre, Esq. of Grove, near Retford.



a systematic renewal of the violences of the previous summer : a committee was therefore formed to prepare and regulate the modes of attack, and point out the objects thereof ;\* and the *temper* of the mob was first tried upon two countrymen, that were led into trouble under the following circumstances.

The rustics of Newthorpe, like the sons of ignorance and prejudice in many other places, gave a display of their *loyalty*, by hanging, shooting, and burning a bundle of straw, &c. which they, in *their manifest wisdom*, intended to represent Thomas Paine, author of the “ Rights of Man ;” and when night came on, and these *valiant men of Newthorpe* had expended all their ammunition, they applied to Matthew Lindley, a shopkeeper in the hamlet, for a fresh supply, *that their victory over the bundle of straw might be rendered more signal*. With this application Mr. Lindley refused to comply, “ because,” said he, “ the sun is set, and the law forbids any person to sell powder after that time, for fear of accidents by fire.” But as these *heroes* were alike strangers to law, common sense, and common prudence, they broke Mr. Lindley’s windows, and otherwise damaged his property. In consequence of this, he applied for legal redress, and himself and some of the violators of the peace, were ordered to attend before the county magistrates, on a Saturday, at the White Lion Inn, in Nottingham, at which place the magistrates used to meet for the transaction of such business as might come before them ; Mr. Lindley taking his brother Robert with him as a witness. Suffice it so say further, that Mr. Lindley got no redress—that himself and brother were forced into the centre of a lawless banditti, collected on the occasion in the inn yard, whose passions were inflamed by those very persons that it was expected would have been punished for their outrage at Newthorpe, and whose ferocity was rendered stronger by this display of criminal impunity—that the two destined victims were borne by the mob into the Market-place, under circumstances of personal injury which we need not describe ; and that, while Mr. Lindley had the good fortune to escape into a shop on the Long Row, with the loss of one or both of his coat-skirts† his brother Robert was dragged to the Exchange pump, where he was pumped upon as long as the mob pleased, and otherwise treated according to *their notions of justice*.

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\* Many honorable men, of the party we are now speaking, blushing at the darkness of the deeds and the crimes thus committed, have contended that no such committee was ever formed, no doubt believing most sincerely the assertions thus made ; but how easy would it be for me to convince them of their error, for, did not prudence and a sense of moral duty forbid it, I could name every individual of that select body, the house at which they met, the person among them appointed to collect money secretly, for the purpose of engaging the ruffian navigators, then employed in cutting the canal, to aid the still more despicable wretches in the town, in hunting down, ducking, destroying the property and endangering the lives of their neighbours, who differed with them on matters of opinion. I could also name the wretch that was employed as an agent of this committee, to engage and marshal the rioters, and who was furnished with the means of distributing ale, &c. among them ; he was also occasionally employed as a *scribe*, in which capacity he wrote the inflammatory hand-bill which appeared on the 1st of July, 1794, the day previous to the commencement of the horrid scenes this year. I afterwards became well acquainted with one, and, I believe, the *best*, of this committee, who, in our neighbourly conversations, when these scenes have been mentioned, has often taken credit to himself for *having informed several of the democrats to get out of the way, when they had been selected to be ducked* ; though he never admitted to me that he was one of the committee, nor was such admission necessary, in order to the establishment of the fact.

I have, however, made up my mind on the subject : I will do my duty as an historian, in briefly relating the leading circumstances, but not a name among the aggressors shall be entered, as such, in this work ; because the preserving of those names would be a source of local enmity and strife through generations yet unborn, inasmuch as the descendants of the *injured* might occasionally upbraid the descendants of the *injurers* ; and thus, through centuries, perpetuate animosity and discord—two hateful passions, which I pray to God, may, ere long, be laid in eternal sleep.

† This was the beginning of a system of abuse afterwards called *spencering*.

But the great effort of violence was made on the 2d of July, as will be proved from the following extracts from documents written on the subject.—Extract of a letter to the author from Mr. Robert Denison, proprietor of the cotton mill, then standing near Poplar-place, to the defence and threatened injury of which the extract alludes :—“ July 2d, 1794, a ferocious mob made an attack upon the mill and demolished the windows. A man with a young child on one arm and a firebrand in his right hand, set fire to the work-shops, which were consumed with much valuable timber. The adjoining tenements were much injured by the miscreants placing fire on the stairs and other parts of the houses.” And again, “ The mill was defended by several young men, most of them stocking-makers (who volunteered their services) and the three sons of the proprietor; but such was the imbecility of the mayor, that he wrote to the proprietor—THAT THERE WAS NO SECURITY FOR THE LIVES OF THE YOUNG MEN IN THE MILL, UNLESS THEY WERE CONDUCTED BY A MILITARY ESCORT TO THE COMMON GAOL, IT BEING THE ONLY PLACE OF SAFETY.”

I have three briefs in my possession superscribed by Kinderley and Long, Chancery-lane, London, which are acknowledged by Messrs. Vaughan and Reader, and which were pleaded from by those gentlemen at the Lent assizes in this town in 1795, in behalf of William Marriott and Samuel Duckmanton, against three of the *duckers*, and from one of them the following extract is given :—“ The temporizing and pusillanimous conduct of the chief magistrate and attending constables contributed very much to increase the fury and confidence of the mob—we are sorry to say, that it was sanctioned by men respectable for property, who ought to have known better than to fan the flame of civil insurrection, but whose weak heads and bad hearts were impenetrable to the sacred duty which they owed to the community and the law. The mayor was informed of the riot so early as about three o'clock in the afternoon on Wednesday the 2d July. He was with the mob shortly after attended by several constables,—not endeavouring to disperse them or repress their outrageous violence, but witnessing with criminal apathy the excesses which they committed, and even joining them in their illegal purpose of searching for the arms which the peaceable inhabitants kept for their own defence in times of similar commotions, under pretence that they were procured with sinister intentions against the state. The mob continued in the neighbourhood of Coalpit-lane with the chief magistrate among them till near five o'clock; during which period houses were entered and searched, windows broken, and many persons dragged to adjacent pumps and ditches, where they were half drowned with water, or suffocated with mud, and otherwise beaten and cruelly treated; the mayor making no effort to protect them. Having carried on this scene of riot, insult, and brutality in this part of the town for about three hours, without a single aggressor being apprehended, the mob went towards Pennyfoot-stile with the same malevolent intentions, and searching houses, ducking, pumping, &c. were continued with the same relentless, or rather increased fury.”

Many persons were ducked in the Leen and Canal, and John Relps, a highly respectable master stocking-maker, lost his life in consequence of the ill treatment he received on the occasion; nor were the criminals punished for the murder. Posterity will scarcely believe that these monstrous scenes were carried on for more than a week, with a few intervals of troubled repose, while this *Henry Green*, this chief magistrate of a great and ancient corporate town, was within call; nay

he was actually a spectator of the scenes three separate days; and but a short distance from his own house one man was actually uncovered by a *fury* in the shape of a *woman*, while her *worthy* associates of the other sex plied him with copious streams from a pump. A few of the common ruffians received a little imprisonment, and there ended the course of criminal retributive justice; nor was it material about punishing the petty agents in this nefarious business—it was on the head of this *Henry Green*, this villanous mayor, that the whole weight of legal vengeance should have fallen. But though he escaped the punishment of man, he was marked out by the finger of heaven; for, from being highly respected as a gentleman, from being an opulent hosier, a cotton-spinner, and a brewer, he became in a short time alike a bankrupt in property and in fame. Though dwelling in a very populous town, he became as isolated as an hermit, for he was shunned both by the virtuous and the vicious—by the former from a principle of honor, and by the latter from motives of shame. He died of a broken heart when *want* and *guilt* haunted him like two spectres—and the winds of heaven dispersed his distressed and disconsolate family. Nay the foundation of his house was uprooted, and one of the men who had been cruelly treated through his criminal neglect, strewed pepper and salt upon the earth where it had stood.

In July too, of this year, a man named Isaac Rooke, who had lately been discharged from St. Bartholomew's hospital, London, and was on his way to Chesterfield, was found in a close near Nottingham to all appearance dead. Assistance being procured, he was taken to St. Peter's church, for the purpose of having a coroner's inquest on the body, when as the people were about to leave him, one of them perceived the body to move, and upon feeling his pulse it was found very strong; he was then taken to a public-house, and by proper assistance was soon enabled to pursue his journey in apparent health. He said he was subject to fits, for which he had been bled many times; and that, but a few weeks previous, he had been laid in a coffin preparative to his interment, where he was perceived to breathe, and thus was saved from being buried alive. He afterwards carried a written paper in his pocket to prevent so dreadful a catastrophe.

In 1795, on the 18th of April, a riot took place in consequence of the high price of provisions; but the Nottingham troop of yeomanry, and a troop of heavy dragoons put an end to it, by seizing thirteen of the most active. Throsby by mistake says this riot happened on the 19th, which was Sunday.

In December, died Mr. John Arnold a most eccentric character. He was possessed of a small independent fortune, and of a large fund of oddities and honesty; and it is now become a bye word when a bet is offered, to say, "Who shall be Johnny Arnold," that is, who shall hold the stakes, as Johnny was very partial to making small bets, but would always hold the stakes himself.

In 1796, about this time, Mr. Benjamin Darker an industrious and respectable needle-maker of Nottingham, built the first house of what is now called New Radford.\*

In December, D. P. Coke, Esq. M. P. for this town, presented a bill to parliament, which was

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\* Few villages in England have had so rapid an increase of population as Radford, in 1794. it did not contain 1000 inhabitants, in 1802, it returned according to the act of parliament 2269, in 1812, its return amounted to 3447. The ground on which New Radford now stands was, prior to Mr. Darker's house being built, occupied principally as gardens, &c. for the use of Nottingham.

passed in a short time, for removing causes, at the option of one of the parties, from the courts of certain corporate towns of which Nottingham was one, to be tried in the courts of the respective counties at large. The object of this bill savored too much of political party spirit not to be observed by the most unreflecting; it was a blow aimed at the reputation of the body corporate, under an idea that they caused juries to be impannelled to try political causes inimical to the tory interest; notwithstanding which, Mr. Coke afterwards declared, when interrogated on his canvas respecting the bill, *that during the whole course of his professional life as a pleader, he had never found more enlightened jurors than in Nottingham.* In fact they have been highly complimented more than once within a very few years by the judges on the bench; and the counsellors themselves have not unfrequently bowed to their superior investigating information.

But such is *party* in the *part* it takes,  
That, ends to suit, it virtue's cause forsakes,  
Ennobles vice, breaks down the mounds of right,  
Or swears that night is day, or day is night.

In 1797, the refusal of the Bank of England to pay its notes in cash in February was attended with the most serious consequences to Nottingham and its vicinity, by causing an immediate stoppage of a great number of frames for want of cash to go on with, nor could the ordinary business of the town be carried on, until one or both of the then banking-houses had issued out a quantity of seven shilling tickets.

The calamities of the war now began to affect this town very much, in consequence of which a general meeting of the inhabitants was called in the market-place, on the 10th of April, when John Fellows, Esq. was appointed to the chair, in which he was supported by Mr. Francis Wakefield, of this town, and Mr. Robert Davison, of Arnold. A petition to his majesty for the discharge of his ministers, as the authors of all the nation's calamities, was voted unanimously and signed by *five thousand* persons. And in the same month a petition to the same effect was sent to his majesty by the corporate body.

In August died at his house in Castle-gate, John Lacock Story, Esq., a well known solicitor. He was justly celebrated for possessing a fund of legal information, and for his volubility and pertinacity as a pleader in our court of sessions.

The Canal from the river Trent to Grantham was opened this year.

A pauper died in St. Mary's workhouse who had resided in it a considerable length of time, and had always been considered as belonging to the masculine gender, particularly as having been the reputed father of a family, but who on *examination*, after death had performed his task, was found to belong to the feminine gender, and without any of those appearances which constitute what is called the hermaphrodite; in fact she was found to be a woman entire. She had formerly figured on the turf under the name of *Jocky John*, and had been a groom to Sir Harry Harper, and was always considered a good rider.

In August, died Mr. George Maddock, grocer, in Chapel-bar. His body was so extremely corpulent as to render it necessary for his friends to have it drawn on a hurdle to Radford, his family place of interment. His coffin measured *three feet four inches broad*, and *two feet three inches deep*.

The Nottingham volunteer infantry was raised this year, They consisted of three companies, respectively commanded by John Stanford Elliott, Esq. lieutenant-colonel, James Hooley, Esq. major, and Samuel Statham, Esq. captain. There were likewise two country companies that acted along with them, one called the Burton, and the other the Clifton company; the whole under the command of Samuel Smith, Esq. banker, as lieutenant-colonel commandant. They were reputed to consist of one hundred men to each company, though the whole never amounted to five hundred. Their uniform was a dark blue light infantry jacket turned up with scarlet and trimmed with gold lace, white pantaloons, and short gaiters, a light horseman's helmet and white feathers. They had neither knapsacks, great coats, nor canteens; nor were they ever taken out of the town on permanent duty. They were broken up in April, 1802, in consequence of the peace of Amiens.

On the 28th of December, the thermometer stood three degrees below O at half-past eleven o'clock at night; it being placed by Thomas Hancock on the Tinker's Leen bridge, four feet above the ground.

1799. In the race week, died at the White Lion inn, in this town, the Right Hon. Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, Viscount Wentworth, &c. He arrived the evening before for the purpose of attending the races, supped with a good appetite and retired well to his room about eleven o'clock; but was found dead in bed by his servant at eight the next morning. It was supposed that he died in an apoplectic fit.

1800. In April a riot took place in the Market-place about the high price of provisions, which the magistrates suppressed without any serious consequences.

In August, a dancing-master charged one George Caunt, a reputable hairdresser, with stealing a set of window curtains from his premises when on his business; and obtained a warrant for his apprehension, which was put into the hands of a constable of the name of George Ball for execution; but when attempting to do his duty, Caunt lodged a pistol bullet in his heart. His death was not more instantaneous than the flight of the murderer, who was taken the next day at Alfreton, by two men who pursued him from this town by order of the magistrates. The murder was committed about twelve o'clock on Saturday night and the murderer was brought back by four the next day. He was desperate when taken, and attempted to commit suicide on the road, but was prevented; he however determined not to survive the wreck of his fame, and in conformity to this resolution he died, from having taken poison, in two days after his confinement in the town gaol. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*, in consequence of which he was buried at the top of the Sand-hills near the Derby-road; but the night following his friends removed the body, and after carrying it about from place to place for several days, it was deposited in the General Baptist's burying-ground in Stoney-street. A handsome subscription was raised for the family of the unfortunate Ball.

Notwithstanding Sunday was the last day of this month, it was marked as the commencement of a very serious riot. The enormous high price of provisions, particularly bread, had roused the vindictive spirit of the people to an almost ungovernable pitch. They began late in the evening by breaking the windows of a baker in Millstone-lane, and in the morning proceeded, with an increase of numbers, and an increase of vengeance, to treat others of the same trade in the same unwelcome

manner. Granaries were broken open at the canal wharfs; and it was really distressing to see with what famine-impelled eagerness, many a mother bore off the corn in her apron to feed her famished young. The volunteer infantry were called out to do duty at those places which were the objects of popular fury, while the civil power and dragoons from the barracks exerted themselves in vain to make them desist from their purpose; for immediately on their being dispersed in one place, they collected in another. Thus things continued till about one o'clock on Tuesday, the second of September, when one of the most awful storms of lightning, thunder and rain ever witnessed in this town, put a final end to the riot. A ball of fire struck a house in Parliament-strset, nearly opposite the top of the Crown-yard, took out the windows and did some other damage; and at the same time one of the country yeomanry was overthrown with his horse by the populace in a ditch, near the Crown and Anchor, in Snenton-street; and it must be confessed that they owed the preservation of their lives more to the storm, than to the clemency of the people\*.

In October, our corporate body unanimously voted a petition to the king, praying his majesty immediately to convene parliament for the purpose of taking into consideration the alarming high price of bread. This petition was presented to the king by the duke of Portland, who was recorder of the town, and lord lieutenant of the county; and who, in the capacity of his majesty's secretary of state for the home department, wrote an official letter to the petitioners, in which he stated that, *in his opinion the scarcity of grain throughout the kingdom was real, and that there was not sufficient corn in the granaries of the farmers and factors to meet the exigencies of the winter.* The publication of this document, and one of a similar tendency, addressed by the same nobleman to the lord lieutenant of the county of Oxford, had the effect of raising the price of grain to a pitch unparalleled in the history of the worst times of England's sufferings. And the experience of a few succeeding months proved the statements of the noble duke to be *false*, and confirmed the public in their opinion, *that they were made from the worst of motives.* The result of these letters was, not only the death of thousands from absolute want, but a considerable advance in the rental of land which enhanced the price of corn for several years after. Many a factor during this awful period kept up his corn till it was spoiled, rather than sell it at a reasonable price.

During the latter part of the summer the corporation opened a subscription for the relief of the poor in the article of bread which received very considerable support from a number of wealthy and humane inhabitants; but by none so much as by Messrs. Davison and Hawksley, of Arnold. They supplied an immense quantity of corn, considerably below the price they had given for it, for the use of their own work-people. And what is very remarkable, when the corn was thus obtained to supply the poor with bread, which they could not otherwise obtain for money, there was neither wind nor water to grind it. These two worthy gentlemen remedied this misfortune in the operations of nature which, coupled with the machinations of man, threatened the most alarming consequences at this momentous crisis, for they ground the corn in their own mill (which was turned by the machinery of their worsted mill) and sent the flour in their own waggons

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\* The town rate expenses occasioned by this riot, amounted to one hundred and ninety-five pounds three shillings and threepence-halfpenny.

to Nottingham, free of all expense, which was sold at a reduced price by the corporate servants at the Malt-cross to the eager multitude, and thus the horrors of a famine were expelled. These two gentlemen, likewise took the *batches* of corn, of those who could raise them, from this town to Arnold, and ground them, and brought them back free of expense, so long as applicants could be found. For these benevolent and humane acts they received a tribute from thousands of hearts overflowing with the most grateful sensations ; and Mr. Hawksley was presented with the freedom of the town ; as was also Mr. Towle of Broxtow, who regularly brought corn to market, and sold it at a moderate price during this alarming period.

A soup-house was opened in Goose-gate by subscription about the succeeding Christmas, where many poor families received a temporary and piteous relief.

In 1801, on Easter-Tuesday, the parishioners of St. Mary's revived their long-dormant right of choosing a churchwarden alternately with the vicar. Mr. Charles Lambert, and Charles Mellor, Esq. were the candidates, and after a severe contest, the latter was elected ; he being the low-party candidate. During this contest some highly reprehensible irregularities were committed in the church.

November 29th, Mr. Denison's cotton-mill at Pennyfoot-stile was burnt down : it was insured for about £10,000, which sum was somewhere about two-thirds of its value.

In 1803, on the 17th of May, the bill which authorises the magistrates of the county at large, to interfere with the police of the county of the town, received the royal assent. It had its origin in a petition presented to the House of Commons, on the 24th of November, the preceding year, on the part of Daniel Parker Coke, Esq. ; who complained that the return to parliament of Joseph Birch Esq., of Hazle Hall, in the county of Lancaster, and his own consequent disappointment, were occasioned by the corporate magistrates not doing their duty in suppressing the riotous behaviour of the people at the election in the preceding July.\*

The following is a copy of the above-mentioned bill, which passed the two houses, under the name of the " Nottingham election and police bill ;" would it not have been more proper to have called it the charter infringement bill ?

Whereas of late years, many riots and disturbances of the public peace, have taken place within the town and county of the town of Nottingham ; and at the late election of members to serve in parliament for the said town and county, the freedom of such election was, by great riots and disturbances, grossly violated, and a great number of electors were deterred from exercising their franchise by voting at such election : And whereas the said town and county of the said town were formerly part of the county of Nottingham, but have been separated and made distinct therefrom, and exempted from the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the said county of Nottingham ; and the mayor and aldermen of the said town of Nottingham are justices of the peace in and for the said town and the county of the

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\* It does not appear from the Journals of the House of Commons, that the merits of any election petition from Nottingham had been tried from the year 1701, to this time. On the 14th of February, 1701, Robert Sacheverill, Esq. petitioned against the return of George Gregory, Esq. complaining also of the partial conduct of Joseph Cook and William Bilby, gentlemen sheriffs, and Samuel Watkinson, Esq. the mayor, and several other persons, who by corrupt and illegal means had secured to his opponent a majority on the poll. June 10th, 1701. the house agreed that Mr. Sacheverill was duly elected, and that Mr. Gregory's return was obtained by corrupt and illegal means. At the same time it was agreed that, the right of election for the town of Nottingham be in the mayor, freemen, and freeholders of 40s. per annum, and it was also agreed that the eldest sons of freemen, by their birth, and the youngest sons of freemen who have served seven years apprenticeship, whether in Nottingham, or elsewhere ; and also, persons who have served seven years to any freeman of the town, were well entitled to demand their freedom.

said town : And whereas the said distinct and exclusive jurisdiction has been found ineffectual for preserving the peace and securing the freedom of election within the said town and county of the said town ; may it therefore please your majesty that it may be enacted ; and be it enacted by the king's most excellent majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that, from and after the passing of this act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the justices of the peace in and for the county of Nottingham for the time being, and they are hereby required to act as justices of the peace in and for the said town and county of the said town of Nottingham ; and such justices of the peace in and for the said county of Nottingham, are hereby authorized and empowered to act as justices of the peace in and for the said town and county of the town of Nottingham, in as full and ample manner as they could or might have done, if the said town and county of the said town had not been made a distinct county, but had continued to all intents and purposes part of the said county of Nottingham, and as fully and amply to all intents and purposes whatsoever as the mayor and aldermen of the said town and county of the town of Nottingham, or any or either of them, as justices of the peace, before the passing of this act, have used and exercised within the said town and county of the said town, or any part thereof, any charter, law, custom, or usage to the contrary notwithstanding ; and all persons whatever, either within the said county of Nottingham at large, or within the said town of Nottingham and county of the said town, who may at any time hereafter be lawfully authorized, appointed, or required by any of the said justice or justices, as such justice or justices of the peace acting in and for the said town and county of the town of Nottingham by virtue of this act, to do any act, matter, or thing, are hereby authorized and required to act in pursuance of such authority, appointment, or requisition, in the same manner, and under and subject to the same pains and penalties for disobedience thereof, and under the same protection and privileges, as to any act, matter, or thing done or to be done in pursuance thereof, as if such act, matter, or thing respectively, were or had been done, or were or had been authorized, appointed, or required, within the said county of Nottingham at large.

II. And whereas the ensuing election of a member to serve in parliament for the said town of Nottingham may take place previously to the next Midsummer quarter sessions of the peace for the said county of Nottingham, by means whereof such persons as might, before the said ensuing election, take out their *dedimus potestatum*, to act as magistrates for the said county, could not forthwith qualify themselves to act according to the statute of the eighteenth year of his late majesty king George the Second, be it therefore enacted, that such persons so taking out their *dedimus potestatem* before the said ensuing election, may, and they are hereby enabled to take and subscribe the oath of qualification required by the said statute before any two or more magistrates of the said county ; and any two or more of such magistrates are hereby authorized to administer the same ; and the said oath, when so taken and subscribed, shall be as effectual as if the same had been taken and subscribed at any general or quarter sessions of the peace for the said county ; and the oaths of such persons so qualifying themselves, when taken and subscribed as aforesaid, shall be returned by the said magistrates to the clerk of the peace of the said county, and by him filed amongst the records of the said next Midsummer sessions.\*

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\* The power of parliament to enact as above enacted, the writer of these pages cannot for a moment dispute, but the interference of the county magistrates with the civil government of the town ; brings forcibly to his recollection the two following resolutions of the court of aldermen in London in the years 1799 and 1800.

" GLYN, MAYOR"—" At a court of aldermen, held on Tuesday the 15th day of January, 1799, it was resolved. That all offences committed within the city of London against the public peace, by persons resident or apprehended therein, are cognizable *only by the lord mayor and aldermen of this city, in their capacity of justices*. And that this court will consider the future interference on such occasions of the magistrates of any other place, as an infringement of the privileges of the city, and highly indecorous."

" COMBE, MAYOR"—" At a court of aldermen, held on Tuesday the 22d day of April, 1800, it was resolved unanimously. That the thanks of this court be given to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, for having communicated a letter written by his lordship to Sir William Addington, Nicholas Bond, and Richard Ford, Esqrs. complaining of the magistrates of Bow-street having improperly interfered with the magisterial duties of the city magistrates : and also the answers returned by Mr. Ford and Mr. Bond, the former of which is perfectly satisfactory ; while this court deem Sir Wm. Addington's silence on the subject disrespectful to the chief magistrate and this court."



Thus the privilege, which the burgesses had enjoyed from the 15th of September, 1449, of being exclusively governed by the resident members of their own body, was lost through an electioneering squabble, being laid hold of by disappointed ambition, and coloured with the political animosities of the times.

The town rate expenses for the election which commenced on the 30th of this month between Mr. Coke and Mr. Birch, from the latter being unseated in consequence of the before-mentioned petition, and at which the former was returned, amounted to £1406 17s. This was for constables and their staves.

Every one that is friendly to peace and good order in society must lament the excesses which arise from a collision of opinions at electioneering contests—the fault however lies in the system—nor will any man who has any claim to impartiality deny, that Mr. Coke was ill treated at the election in 1802; but it is still to be lamented that he should have carried his political animosity so far, as to become instrumental in breaking into the sanctuary of one of those charters which have so long been the proud boast of the burgesses of Nottingham, and which, as one of those burgesses, he had taken an oath to defend. The question is not, whether the county magistrates be partial or impartial—whether they exercise their authority with violence or moderation; for there will generally be a mixture of good and bad men among them as well as among other aggregate bodies; *but whether those charters ought to be supported inviolate by every burgess that has sworn in the name of the ALMIGHTY, to defend them at the expense of every earthly thing else he holds dear.* Besides John Davison, Esq. the then Mayor, had defended Mr. Coke at the risk of his popularity among the opponents of that gentleman, and at an expense in constables amounting to £93 16s. 10d. which was levied upon the town.

The county magistrates sit on the left, and the chartered ones on the right hand of the recorder on the bench at the quarter sessions, and in the same order with respect to the judge at the assizes.

This year a new regiment of volunteer infantry was raised, consisting of eight companies. Their dress was the same as the militia of the county, except the cloth, &c. being of finer quality.

The first house erected in New Snenton.\*

1805. In January, a petition to the House of Commons was determined upon against a corn bill, which passed the 30th of July the preceding year. It was conducted by the writer of this, in conjunction with a respectable committee, and was signed by more than five thousand persons. The bill, according to the calculation of a committee of corn merchants, exacted from the pockets of the people a sum adequate to £9,493,386 annually by its effect in raising the price of corn, notwithstanding during the five preceding years the sum of £2,824,337 0s. 8d. had been paid to foreigners in bounties for the importation of corn. Yet in the face of this, the bill in question offered a bounty of half-a-crown a quarter upon the exportation of wheat when the price should amount to forty-eight shillings a quarter and that to fifty-two; nor could corn be imported free till the price at home was sixty-six shillings a quarter; and this too at a time when the great bulk of the open corn land was inclosing and converting into pasture land, which, according to the best

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\* Snenton under the population act of 1801, made a return of 558 inhabitants; in conformity to the act of 1811, the return was 967.

calculations on the subject, reduces the quantity of food produced for human sustenance at least two thirds.

Notwithstanding that some of the most respectable corn merchants in the kingdom gave their testimonies at the Bar of the House of Commons against the operations of this bill ; that near the whole of the manufacturing towns in Great Britain petitioned for its repeal at the same time, and that almost every member of both Houses of Parliament was individually addressed on the subject, yet no relief was obtained, except for Scotland, to the inhabitants of which the bill was particularly oppressive.

May 15th, came on an election in St. Mary's Church, for the office of Sexton. It was warmly contested for several days between John Johnson and Thomas Clarkson ; the former, however was successful ; he being highly respected for his general good demeanour, and for his kind attention to his aged father, who had been the preceding sexton many years.\*

In the night of the 6th of September and the two succeeding days about three thousand tons of hay was burnt in the upper part of our meadows, in consequence of a stack belonging to Mr. Richard Hooton taking fire, from being put together in an improper state. He was sued for damages and it cost him about £1500.

In 1806, October 11, John Allen, Esq. mayor, and Mr. George Coldham, town-clerk, attended the funeral procession of the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, in London, as representatives of the corporation of this town, they being deputed by the common hall, to attend on that solemn occasion.

In this year, Lieutenant Brown of the 83d regiment, a youth of seventeen on the recruiting service here, was killed in a duel with Ensign Butler of the 36th, then quartered in this town.—On the coroner's jury returning a verdict of "wilful murder," Butler, and the two seconds, Hall and Wiltshire, immediately absconded ; nor does it appear that justice has yet been able to overtake the offenders.

In 1807, on the 21st of April, died, the Reverend George Walker, F. R. S. and president of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society. He was one of the ministers of the Unitarian Society, in this town, for upwards of twenty-five years, during which time, he published his *Treatise on the Spheres* ; also, one on the *Conic Sections* ; two volumes of *Sermons*, &c. He was well known in the political world, as a staunch supporter of the people's rights. He was a *giant* in literature, and a *child* in economy : his hand could grasp a world of science, but could never hold a shilling, if he met an object of distress.

About this time a vestry meeting was held in the parish of St. Mary, whereat it was agreed to apply to parliament, for a bill to enable the parish in conjunction with that of St. Nicholas, to erect a house of industry, under the plausible pretext of bettering the condition of the poor, but in fact to make their situation as dependent and wretched as that of galley slaves.† To give even an outline of this bill here, would occupy too much space ; suffice it to say, that it was intended to take into this house the poor for twelve miles round—that there were to be a number of directors

\* Clarkson was related to the family of Willoughby, of Wollaton, in this neighbourhood by a marriage; and was lineally descended by the mother's side, from the Wood's, or Woude's, of Yorkshire, who came over with William the Conqueror.

† The parishioners of St. Peter's had the good sense to keep clear of this nefarious business.

called a corporation, who were to have the power of ordering corporal punishment, and to be accusers, jurors, and judges in their directorial capacity—that they were to have the power of sending pauper-boys to sea ; and that persons who escaped from the house a *second* time were to be deemed guilty of felony and subject to transportation, if they took any of the cloathing belonging to the house with them ; which could not have been avoided, except they had escaped in a state of *nudity*.

The business of this bill was managed so adroitly, that even some of its own committee were strangers to its contents, nor were the public acquainted with its existence till it was on the eve of being read a second time in the House of Commons ; for the vestry meeting had been called with such apparent indifference and managed with such delicacy, that the public mind was not awakened to the subject. Notwithstanding all this *management*, a copy of the bill found its way into the hands of a person who was not much in the habit of letting public grievances remain at rest. A town meeting was called and a highly respectable committee chosen to prepare a petition to parliament against the bill. The petition was presented ; but the prorogation of parliament, on the 27th of April, and its subsequent dissolution arrested its progress, independent of the prayers of those who felt deeply for the interests of humanity. Notwithstanding this, it would have been revived at the succeeding meeting of parliament, as were many other bills, thus stopt in their progress, had it not been otherwise opposed.

The Rev. John (afterwards Dr.) Bristow, undertook to vindicate its principles ; when, the person alluded to before, replied to him in a number of printed papers, which had the effect of raising the public indignation to the highest pitch both against the bill, its projectors and their abettors. And on the 18th June the most numerous vestry meeting was held by adjournment from the vestry to the west-end of St. Mary's church, ever remembered by the oldest man living, in which the principles of the house of industry-bill were fully exposed, fully exploded, and totally abrogated ; and a string of resolutions was passed and entered in the vestry book, declaratory of the parishioners' sentiments and determination not to have a house of industry erected ; and thus this iniquitous schēme fell to the ground, never, I hope, to be revived. This circumstance ought to teach men the necessity of attending closely to vestry meetings, as for want of that, matters may sometimes be carried highly inimical to the general interest.

November the 4th, the Right Honorable Henry Richard Vassall Fox, Lord Holland was presented with the freedom of the town.\*

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\* Mr. George Coldham being now no more, and flattery intirely out of the question ; an opportunity presents itself to the author of this work, of giving to the public one of the most neat and concise speeches ever delivered on a similar occasion ; on presenting the freedom of the town to Lord Holland. Mr. Coldham as town clerk, addressed his lordship in the following words :—" MY LORD—The corporation of Nottingham being now assembled in common hall, to present to you the freedom of their town, and to enroll your name amongst the members of their body, desire me to say a few words in their name upon an occasion so interesting to their feelings. The common hall views in your lordship's person the representative of your late honorable relative, now, alas, no more—unhappily for this country, for Europe, and for the human race. We cannot avoid recollecting with exultation, that in the very depth of the political adversity of that great man, we aspired to distinguish him by marks of our regard and confidence ; and we remember with gratitude, that in a season of peculiar difficulty to this corporation, we had the singular good fortune to obtain the honor of his friendship and protection. Can it then be wondered at, if having been thus circumstanced, we hastened from the grave of the patriot to bestow the highest mark of respect in our power upon his family ?—can it excite surprise, that for this purpose we should look to your lordship, in whom we recognize those splendid talents, that ardent love of civil and religious liberty, and that fearless spirit of disinterested integrity, which formed the distinguishing characteristics of our departed friend ?

In 1808, Thursday night the 11th of February, was one of the most tempestuous ever remembered in these parts. The snow was from six to twelve feet deep, and the London mail which should have arrived at three o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, did not reach this town till one o'clock on Sunday afternoon.

On Wednesday, April the 6th, Robert Calvin, a North Briton, but long a resident in this town, convicted at the preceding assizes of making a violent assault upon two female infants, underwent a public exposure of one hour in a pillory, made for the purpose and erected in the centre of the Market-place. An exhibition of this sort had not taken place in this town for nearly seventy years.

On Wednesday, the 7th of September, a person of the name of Tomlin was flogged in a cart in Nottingham park, by order of the Rev. Dr. Wylde, for robbing the fishpond gardens. It is not so much the novelty of the case, as a desire to set the public opinion right on the subject, which causes its insertion here. A clamour was raised against the doctor under a supposition, that he had violated the laws of our country, by dispensing with the verdict of a jury in the summary punishment inflicted on this youthful depredator. This was not the case, as by an act of the 43d of Elizabeth, "Any one magistrate on the testimony of one witness, may order a person to be "whipped near the place where the robbery is committed, who is caught robbing a garden, "orchard, &c. or in the act of injuring of trees."—*Burn's Justice*.—WOOD.

In the early part of November, all the officers, and upwards of 500 of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Nottingham volunteer infantry, transferred their services into the local militia. The rest were disbanded.

December the 11th, died Joseph Hill, tailor, in Greyhound-street. On the 25th of the preceding October, he received a bite from a dog, which had been sometime confined, under a supposition that he had shewn some appearance of madness; but as the animal was immediately destroyed, and the man not discovering any symptoms of the complaint, no further notice was taken of the circumstance, than to heal the wound; but on the 9th of December, he was seized with the hydrophobia, and died in a most deplorable condition.

In 1809, January the 6th, the fall of snow was so great that the mails were conveyed on horseback.\*

On the 6th of April, a public meeting was held in the Guildhall in this town, to return thanks to G. L. Wardle, Esq. M. P. for instituting an inquiry into the conduct of the Duke of York in the army as commander in chief, which was unanimously voted.

December the 21st, the Right Honorable Henry Richard Vassall Fox Lord Holland sworn in recorder of this town.

In 1810, on the 28th of May, a meeting was held in the Market-place, supposed to be attended by five thousand persons, when a congratulatory address was voted to Sir Francis Burdett, Baronet, member of parliament, for the city of Westminster, for his patriotic conduct in reprobating the

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\* For upwards of a century an annual prize of one guinea was awarded at Bunny, to the best wrestler present on a certain day. This year Lord Raneliffe, the owner of the village, caused some obstruction to be placed in the way of the wrestlers, which not having the desired effect, his lordship, highly to his credit ordered, that the donation should in future be appropriated to the use of the oldest widow in the village. Thus in 1810, an end was put to this barbarous and disgraceful practice.

conduct of the House of Commons, in a printed paper, for sending John Gale Jones, to Newgate, on a supposed charge of a breach of privilege of that house; and for the writing of which paper the honorable baronet was sent to the Tower by virtue of a warrant from the speaker of the House of Commons, which brought on a legal investigation of several important national questions in the court of King's Bench. An animated petition was likewise sent from the same meeting to the House of Commons, praying for a reform in the representation of that house.

In May, the fellmongers' vats by the Leen-side were destroyed finally as a nuisance, particularly where they lay contiguous to the road.

On the 25th of June, ten sheep or lambs were roasted in this town, and much rejoicing took place in the evening, in consequence of the liberation of Sir Francis Burdett from the Tower.

The Bowling-green made in the park.

The Police-office and lock-up-house built in Smithy-row, on the site of an old public-house.

In September the south east-corner of Bridlesmith-gate taken down by subscription and the road widened the breadth of a carriage.

October the 28th, the New Church at Snenton first opened for divine service.

Saturday, November the 8th, this town was visited by the most violent tempest of wind and rain ever remembered in these parts. The market was completely obstructed. The greater part of the nation felt the sad effects of this awful day.

On the 27th of this month, a town meeting was held in the Guildhall for the purpose of rendering permanent a school, for the education of poor children, founded on the Lancastrian system, which was carried into effect. Mr. Lancaster was present, and spoke in a most animating manner of the benefits to be derived from the institution, and likewise of the patriotic and benevolent disposition of the inhabitants of this town, which was the theme of the people in distant parts of the kingdom.

In 1811, on the 2d of January, a meeting was held of the mayor, aldermen, common council and livery of this corporation, in the council chamber of Guildhall, from whom a petition was transmitted to the House of Lords and one to the House of Commons, praying, that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales might be constituted regent during his father's mental disorder, without being fettered with restrictions; their prayers, and the prayers of a great part of the people, were disregarded on this occasion.

February. Such was the reduced state of the trade of this town, that half-famished workmen, belonging to almost every branch of its principal manufacture, were constrained to sweep the streets for a paltry support. They were employed by the overseers of St. Mary's parish, because the workhouse was too full to receive their families, and other employment could not be found.

An old shop on the south side of Exchange-alley converted into a place convenient for holding the fire-engines.

Some of the roofs of the caverns on the gallows-hill let down, and the ground levelled.

On the 25th of this month, an address was voted by the mayor, aldermen, common council, and livery of this town to the Prince Regent, congratulating him on the disinterestedness of his having sacrificed his own personal feelings in taking into his hands the executive authority of the kingdom, during his father's mental indisposition, with such limited and fettered powers; and sympathising

with him on the great and many misfortunes of the nation, which they attributed *to the war, the progress of taxation, and an obstructed commerce.*

On Monday the 11th of March, some hundreds of country framework-knitters assembled in Nottingham Market-place, and expressed a determination of taking vengeance upon some of the hosiers, for reducing the established prices for making stockings, at a time too, when every principle of humanity dictated their advancement. The appearance of the civil and military authorities prevented any violence from being committed in the town; but at night the men retired to Arnold and broke sixty-three frames, chiefly belonging to a Mr. Brocksop. The mischief caught fire, and spread many miles around the neighbourhood; so much so, that in the space of about three weeks, at least two hundred frames were broken to pieces. Several persons were taken up on suspicion, but conviction was rendered difficult, through the minds of the workmen being firmly united by their mutual sufferings; consequently a little imprisonment was all the legal punishment that any one endured.

June 21. This day, as well as several preceding and succeeding, was not only remarkable for its extreme coldness, but for two flights of fieldfares and one of wild ducks being seen hovering about the neighbourhood. At night the frost was so keen as to produce considerable quantities of ice.

About this time, an organ was purchased by subscription among the parishioners of St. Nicholas, and placed in the church of that parish.

In September, the floor, beneath where the bells stand in St. Mary's church, was let down several feet, and a new one erected immediately under it. This was done by order of the archdeacon, and in the churchwardenship of Mr. Charles Lacy and Mr. James Severn, for the ringers to stand upon, that the old ringing-loft might be taken down, it being offensive to the eye, from its situation in the very centre of the church. This latter loft rested upon supporters which projected from the four centre columns, or supporters of the steeple: it was erected in the reign of Queen Anne, on the following occasion:—Till this time the bells stood in the upper story of the steeple, and it was feared that their swinging motion would injure the fabric; they were accordingly let down a story, and the next floor being too high for the ringers to do their duty, the additional loft was erected.

An organ built in October, by Mr. Lincoln, of London, to be placed in St. Peter's church: it was paid for by subscription.

On the 4th of November, the system of framebreaking was renewed, by an attack made on the house, &c. of a Mr. Hollingsworth, of Bulwell, where several frames were broken; and from this time, the work of destruction was carried on with very little intermission to the end of the year. The desperate measures adopted by the workmen in this neighbourhood, may be truly said to have had a serious effect upon the repose of the whole of this county, as well as those of Derby, Leicester, York, and Lancaster; in as much as the system pursued by the framebreakers, or, as they termed themselves, **LUDDITES**, was adopted by the rioters in those several counties. The framebreakers assumed this appellation from the circumstance of an ignorant youth, in Leicestershire, of the name of Ludlam, who, when ordered by his father, a framework-knitter, to square his needles, took a hammer and beat them into a heap. The practice of these men was to assemble

in parties of from six to sixty, according as circumstances required, under a supposed leader, that was stiled *General Ludd*, who had the absolute command of them, and directed their operations; placing the guards, who were armed with swords, firelocks, &c. in their proper places, while those armed with hammers, axes, &c. were ordered to enter the house and demolish the frames; and when the work of mischief was completed, he called over the list of his men, who answered to a particular number, and he then gave a signal for their departure, by discharging a pistol, which implied that *all was right*. In consequence of these outrages being continued, a considerable military force was brought into the neighbourhood; two of the London police magistrates, with some other officers, came down with a view of assisting the civil power in discovering the ringleaders; a considerable sum of money was also placed at the disposal of a secret committee, for the purpose of obtaining private information; but in disregard of the offers of the secret committee, in contempt of the regent's proclamation, in defiance of the vigilance of the powers, both civil and military, these deluded men continued their course of devastation for several months, and at the end of February, 1812, it was found that no less than six hundred and twenty-four frames had been destroyed.

1812. In February, the framebreaking prevention bill was introduced to the Commons, and in March received the royal assent. By this act, (which was to continue in force no longer than the 1st of March, 1814,) the breaking of a stocking or lace-frame was made death, without the benefit of clergy.

At the lent assizes, seven of the framebreakers were convicted, and ordered for transportation, four for fourteen and three for seven years.

In April, Mr. Trentham, a very considerable manufacturer, was shot by two ruffians, while standing at his own door; fortunately for his family the wound he received did not prove mortal; a reward of £600 was offered the next day for the apprehension of the offenders, but without effect. This outrage, like luddism, was supposed to arise from a dispute between the hosiers and their workmen; Mr. Trentham being a marked object.

At the Lammas assizes another frame-breaker was ordered for fourteen years' transportation.

On the 7th of September, a riot commenced which excited much apprehension among the bakers and floursellers, most of whom had their windows broken. On the 8th the rioters proceeded to the neighbouring villages, to visit the millers, &c. where they committed some trifling acts of violence, after which the matter subsided. The cause assigned for this disturbance was the high price of corn, bread, &c. &c.

The New Church at Radford opened for divine service on the 13th of September.

December the 28th, at a town meeting held in the Guildhall, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning for peace; it was resolved to petition all the three branches of the legislature for a speedy stop being put to the ravages of war.

In 1813, November the 1st, Mr. Sadler, senior, ascended in his balloon from the Company's Wharf, about a quarter before three P. M. and, after an aerial voyage of about fifty-nine minutes, descended in the neighbourhood of Stamford, having passed over a space of about thirty-three miles; and returned the next morning to Nottingham. This was the first time that any person

ascended from this town : in July, 1785, a Mr. Cracknel sent off a balloon from the forest, but, contrary to the expectation of the people, he did not go up with it, although he had promised so to do by advertisement, &c.

On the 30th of November, great rejoicings were made in this town and its vicinity, on account of the successes obtained by the allied forces over the French, &c. Two bullocks, and about twenty sheep were roasted in different parts of the town, and in the evening was a partial illumination, with a display of fireworks, &c.

1814. On the evening of the 17th of May, was exhibited a very grand display of fireworks, in front of the Exchange, which was kept up to a late hour of the night.

Monday, the 6th of June, was spent in rejoicing; and the evening closed with a general illumination. These rejoicings were made in consequence of the defeat of the French armies, and the first abdication of Bonaparte.

On the 29th of June, peace was proclaimed in the usual manner and places.

August 23d, the first stone was laid of the new shambles and the Exchange rooms (see pages 60 and 275).

On the evening of October the 14th, two men were unfortunately shot in an attempt, on the part of the *luddites*, to enter the premises of a person named Garton, at Basford; who either from information received, or from common measures of precaution, had planted police officers in the house for its protection. The first person shot was one of the framebreakers; the other was an inhabitant of Basford, merely a looker on, who, it since appears, the *luddites* conceived to be a spy upon their actions. Rewards to a considerable amount were offered by the Prince Regent, and the Lord Lieutenant of the county, for the discovery of the offenders, but without effect.

In the spring of this year, the magistrates of the county appointed Daniel Freeth, Esq. and Mr. Goodacre, overseers of the poor for the supposed parish of Standard-hill, adjoining the castle, park, and town of Nottingham; and in the autumn, a young woman, who was supposed to have obtained a settlement on Standard-hill, having been found in St. Mary's parish, in a state which justified the interference of the officers, she was taken with regular orders of removal, to the house of one of the aforesaid overseers, and by him refused admittance. Legal means were about to be commenced, when it was found that the appointment of overseers was in itself informal, and the case was permitted to drop; however, in the spring of the following year, a new appointment was made, free from the blunders of the former one, and Messrs. S. Freeth and W. Stretton were appointed overseers. The inhabitants then deemed it necessary to take serious measures of defence. The extra-parochial property was divided into shares; a purse was raised from the proprietors of the land, and the Court of King's Bench was successfully moved for a mandamus against the appointing magistrates. The three parishes of Nottingham made common cause in support of the magistrates; and during the following Michaelmas term the subject was at different times argued, and at length finally determined, "that Standard-hill, not having been proved to be "an *ancient ville*, or a *ville by reputation*, is not subject to the jurisdiction of magistrates in the "appointment of overseers;" consequently by this decision, no settlements can be made within its boundaries, either by servitude, by the occupation of property, or by any other means.



The land now called Standard-hill; (as before observed, page 375,) derives its name from the important national circumstance of Charles the First erecting his standard here in August, 1642.

In February, 1807, it was divided into thirty-two lots, intersected by four streets, named in page 72, and sold by auction, by Mr. Gaskill, for the Duke of Newcastle. The following is extracted from the conditions of the sale:—"Each purchaser is to covenant, to pave and keep in repair one half of the streets, so far as they respectively extend in the front, or by the side of his lot, and of levelling the same; and also to make a foot-pavement or causeway in the front of the house of the breadth of four feet, and pave the same, and put down proper curbstones within two years of the date of the conveyance; and not to build any house upon the premises of less value than £25 per annum; and that all windows to be made therein shall be sashed, and that the premises shall not at any time be converted into or used for the purpose of a manufactory, nor any noxious trade whatever. And that in the above footway or causeway, no cellar or window lights shall be put out or placed; and that no necessary-house, muckhill-place, nor any outhouse whatever shall be made or erected next to any of the streets."

Standard-hill contains a little more than 9000 square yards, or about one acre, three roods, eighteen perches, and was sold by the yard for nearly £7000. At this time (September, 1816,) besides St. James's church, it has nineteen houses inhabited, a twentieth nearly finished, two portions of land comprising nearly five lots remaining for building upon at some future day, and its population is about one hundred and sixty persons.

1815. At a town meeting, held February 27th, it was resolved to petition the two houses of parliament against any alteration in the then existing corn laws. This petition was signed by upwards of 18,000 persons.

On the 7th of March, the members of the body corporate resolved to petition parliament against the proposed alteration in the corn laws.

March the 21st, peace with America was proclaimed in the usual forms.

In June, the publication of the Nottingham Gazette was discontinued. The author would not have thought this circumstance at all deserving his notice; but having in the note, page 97, stated the existence of such a newspaper, he feels it his duty to mention its fall.

August the 16th, the New Meeting-house in George-street, belonging to the Particular Baptists was first opened for divine service.

In December, a new organ built by Elliott of London, was erected in the High-pavement Meeting, and paid for by voluntary contribution.

The New Lancasterian School mentioned in the note page 128, as intended to be erected, was completed this year.

In 1816, at the Epiphany sessions, January the 11th, Thomas Denman, Esq. took the oaths, &c. as deputy recorder in the room of John Balguy, senior, Esq. who resigned.

In the same month, Mr. John Taylor succeeded Mr. Malbon (mentioned page 126) as master of the High-pavement Charity School.

In February, two petitions to the House of Commons were resolved upon, one from the inhabitants at large, the other from the mayor, aldermen, and livery, both praying for the reduction of the immense peace establishment, and against a renewal of the income and property tax.

On Sunday, March the 17th, about mid-day, a very smart shock of an earthquake was felt in this town and neighbourhood.

May the 24th, the first stone was laid of a new meeting-house intended to be erected in Parliament-street, for the use of the methodists in the new connexion.—The size, 66 feet long by 48 feet wide.

July the 8th, the Right Honorable Lord W. C. Bentinck was chosen to represent the county in parliament, in the room of the Right Honorable Lord Newark, who had succeeded to the peerage on the death of his father Earl Manvers.

In the month of July, a new organ built by Elliott of London, was erected in St. James's Church, and paid for by voluntary contribution.

In the same month, Mr. John Houseman Barber was chosen alderman of Mont-hall ward in the room of the late Mr. Bates, and Mr. Octavius Thomas Oldknow was elected to the vacancy in the senior council, occasioned by the above appointment, (see pages 270 and 271.)

# APPENDIX.

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THE Author of this Work feels great pleasure in giving to the public the following note, and the particulars therein referred to, received from a highly respectable member of the Society of Friends:—

“TO THE AUTHOR OF THE HISTORY OF NOTTINGHAM.

“*As an erroneous statement of the tenets of the people called Quakers has appeared in thy work, (page 109,) I request thee to publish the following sketch of their peculiar principles and practices, as promulgated by George Fox, extracted from the Supplement to his Life by Henry Tuke, in his ‘Biographical Notices of the Members of the Society of Friends,’ Volume II. printed for William Alexander, York, 1815.*

“A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

“*Nottingham, Eighth Month 10, 1815.*”

“The fundamental principle which he was most concerned to inculcate, was the universality of the light, grace, or spirit of Christ, and its sufficiency to teach men all things necessary to salvation. Yet, while he bore testimony to this divine principle, he was far from denying the use of other means for the instruction of mankind; whether through the holy scriptures, the preaching of the gospel, or any other outward instruction, consistent with the christian dispensation. The principal use, however, of these means, he considered to be, to bring the minds of those who partook of them, to an acquaintance with the inward teacher, the light of Christ manifested in the heart; by an attention to which, the benefits of the sufferings of our blessed Redeemer came to be experienced, for, however they may have been charged to the contrary, George Fox and our early friends fully believed in the benefits to be derived from our Saviour’s sufferings and death, both as a propitiation for the sins of mankind, and as the mediator between God and man. It was from this divine principle, or holy spirit, that he considered all true qualification for gospel ministry was to be derived, and all ministers qualified rightly to comply with the apostolic injunction: “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracle of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth.” This spirit he considered so sufficient for the purpose of gospel ministry, as to preclude the necessity for human learning, or any other acquirements, except the gifts and graces the holy spirit confers. This spirit he also considered sufficient to qualify for the performance of divine worship; which may be performed either in silent adoration, or by public religious service, if any are rightly called or moved to it. As these principles tend to the subversion of those modes of worship and ministry, which depend on human ordination and appointment, for which

establishments are often formed, and the expense of these imposed, not only on those who unite in them, but also on such as conscientiously dissent; this part of George Fox's doctrines subjected him, and his friends, to much persecution; but their long and patient suffering under it, produced, at length, a mitigation of divers laws in their favor; and, perhaps, it is not too much to say, this society has been, more than any other, a means of procuring the extension of religious liberty.—The belief, that man is accountable to his Maker only for his religious opinions and practices, providing these do not infringe on any moral or civil obligation, early impressed the mind of this enlightened man;—a principle which is now making a rapid progress in the christian world. A free exercise of gospel ministry, by those who were 'called of God,' was earnestly promoted by George Fox, 'freely ye have received, freely give,' might be considered his motto; all established maintenance for ministers was disapproved by him, particularly that arising from tithes, which he considered not only objectionable on the general principle he had adopted, of a free ministry, but also on account of its reverting to the old legal system, from which the gospel of Christ had emancipated its true professors. The principles which have been maintained by the friends of George Fox, have, it is presumed, thrown much light on this subject; and, perhaps, will eventually be a means, with other co-operating causes, of removing the political, as well as religious, evil of tithes, from the professors of christianity, at least in this country. The objection of George Fox to many of the religious forms and ceremonies in general use, was a prominent part of his system; he believed, that most of these forms were unsanctioned by scripture, and that, by drawing men from the work of religion in the heart, they were calculated rather to oppose, than to promote, true piety. The use of water baptism, in particular, he thought tended to divert mankind from that 'one baptism,' which now saveth; not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience towards God. He disapproved of all 'wars and fightings,' conceiving them to proceed from the unmortified passions of men; and to have no political necessity, if these passions were subjected to the influence of the cross of Christ, and regulated by the doctrines and precepts which he and his apostles taught to their followers. That 'nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more,' is among the many consoling hopes, which the spirit of prophecy holds out to the believing christian. Swearing, not only profane, but legal, was considered by George Fox as expressly forbidden by our Saviour, that he and his friends, consonant with the words of the Apostle James, entirely declined the use of oaths. They underwent much suffering on this account, but in this respect the laws are now favorable to the Society of Friends. The complimentary and flattering titles given to men, the addressing individuals in the plural number, and bowing, or putting off the hat, struck him as inconsistent with the simplicity of the gospel, and with the doctrines which our Saviour taught. These practices, he, therefore, laid aside; and the disuse of them by his friends, and the plainness of their dress, and their not regulating it by the fashion of the day, continue to be marks of the members of this society. He early saw the necessity of establishing a christian discipline, by which the members of the society were employed in watching over and admonishing each other, when occasion required; and those whose conduct became reproachful, and could not be reclaimed, were disowned, or disunited, and the society cleared of the discredit which might

otherwise attach to it. Among the peculiarities of George Fox's views, was the part he assigned to the female sex, so far as related to themselves, in the discipline which he had established, and in asserting their call, by the great head of the church, to a part in the ministry. One obvious effect resulting from these regulations was, to raise the sex in usefulness and importance, and consequently to elevate their character, both in religious and civil society; and there is, perhaps, no society in which the sex is more virtuous, more respectable, or more happy. Besides the various matters already mentioned, this enlightened reformer, testified against those public amusements and diversions which are much in use among professing christians; but as there are many other religious people, who, in a great measure, concur with him *in these respects*, it may not be necessary to rank *these* among his peculiarities. His sentiments, however, and the practice of the society in reference to these things, may fairly be considered as exalting their moral character; and when all the principles and practices propagated by this true follower of Christ, are fully taken into view, I believe it will be found that few, if any, have approached nearer to the standard of those christian precepts inculcated by our blessed redeemer, in his most excellent sermon on the Mount, and that no principles are better calculated to promote the happiness of man in this world, or more adapted to prepare him for a state of happiness in that which is to come."

### ***THE CASE OF WIDOW HANCOCK.***

The author readily gives insertion to the following letter, without subscribing to the full length of error charged therein; for the words alluded to are, after speaking of the merits and death of Mr. Hancock, "The Waterwork Company too, to their eternal honor be it spoken, assigned a part of the engine-house for Mrs. Hancock, during her widowhood; and directed an annual stipend to be paid her also." Now, if it had pleased Providence to have extended the life of Mrs. Hancock's son beyond her own widowhood and death, and he had continued engineer, the statement alluded to would have been correct; for the company had assigned her a part of the engine-house to reside in, and a stipend towards her support. But, it is fair to admit, that the words might be taken to imply a "stipend" *independent of her son's salary*, which, on his death, proved not to be the case:—

"Nottingham, September 3d, 1816.

"SIR.—I hope you will pardon the liberty I have taken, in correcting an error in your article, "*Waterworks*," page 26th of the *History of Nottingham*, wherein you state that the "*Waterwork Company*, assigned a part of the engine-house, as an asylum, with a stipend to be allowed to Mrs. Hancock, during her widowhood. As a proof you were not correct, she is a widow, and at her son's decease, (who succeeded his father as engineer,) was obliged to quit the house, without a shilling; after residing there thirty-three years. Whatever she received during her son's life, was out of his salary, as that salary was never altered on her account.

To Mr. Blackner.

## *EXCHANGE-HALL, PUBLIC ROOMS, &c.*

Since the body of this work went to press, these rooms and the shambles adjoining have been brought into such a state of forwardness, as to enable the author to give the following description of them :—

The first stone was laid at the south-east corner, about 10 feet below the surface of the earth August the 23d, 1814,\* (noticed page 404,) by John Allen, Esq., who was then mayor of the town.

The large room is after the proportion most approved of by Palladio, the famed architect, and of the exact size of several rooms built by him,† being 75 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 30 feet high with an arched ceiling. The two small rooms are 22 feet 6 inches by 26 feet 2 inches, and 24 feet high each.

Between the centre and large room is a double gallery, the ascent to which is by a winding staircase from the centre room. It is supported in the large room by two Ionic columns, surmounted with a regular entablature and iron railing. The communication between the two galleries is by three doors in the partition wall, so as to form one gallery occasionally.

The rooms are finished in a plain and neat manner with a bold cornice, and circular architraves over the windows and recesses resting on an impost moulding, which runs round all the rooms.—The walls of the large room and the east small room are paneled.

These rooms are intended for public meetings, assemblies, transactions of public business, for the magistrates to hold their sittings in, and hustings for the electing members of parliament for the town, and are so contrived that the electors will ascend by the grand staircase, through the rotunda into the centre room, (which will be properly fitted up on those occasions.) After giving their votes they will descend through an anti-room by a staircase into the Exchange-alley.

The grand staircase into these rooms is very noble and spacious, being 9 feet wide, and has three flights of stone steps, with spacious landing places between each flight, to prevent accidents.

Under the suite of rooms are formed noble shambles, now called the Hall Shambles, to distinguish them from what are called the New Shambles. They are very commodious, and exceedingly well ventilated, having in the centre a spacious avenue 9 feet wide and 126 feet long, extending from the Market-place the whole length of the rooms above. There is a cross avenue about the centre, to communicate with what are called the New Shambles and Exchange-alley: and the whole is so contrived that when compleated, they will form one vast set of shops.

The number of shops in the Old Shambles will be twenty-five. There are three new shops built on the south side of the Hall Shambles, and six more are intended to be built on the site of the old house, west of the back staircase, in the Exchange-alley, what are now called the New

\* A brass plate let into this stone bears the following inscription “ This stone was laid on Tuesday the 23d day of August, A. D. 1814, in the 54th year of the reign of GEORGE the THIRD, by JOHN ALLEN, Esq. mayor, of the town of Nottingham: being the FIRST STONE of a new set of shambles, and suite of public rooms, under the direction of a committee appointed by the corporation, and Mr. Edward Staveley. their architect.”

JOHN ALLEN, Jun. }  
WILLIAM SOARS, Gent. } CHAMBERLAINE.

† In the two partition walls are folding doors, and small doors on each side. These may be thrown open and form one room of 123 feet long on any public occasion.

Shambles, will be pulled down and new shops erected in their place, as soon as the funds of the corporation will allow of its being done.

The front of the Exchange has been very much altered, the center part has been taken down and rebuilt, with a projection of one foot before the old walls. Over this is a handsome stone pediment crowned with a good proportioned pedestal, on which stands the figure of justice. In the pediment the town arms, with an oak branch on one side and an olive branch on the other are carved in stone. A plain stone cornice runs on the pediment and wings, with a plain blocking course placed on it, extending from the foot of the pediment on each side. At each angle is a neat vase, with a good bold Gholosh ornament running round. In the centre is a handsome Venetian window, as improved by Adams and Whyatt, which lights the large room, and is ornamented with two handsome Ionic columns. Above this is the clock—the dial is fixed in a stone rim or moulding with ruffled leaves, &c. falling gracefully down the sides, and supported by a handsome truss on each side, resting on a plain tablet, with the date 1815, cut in Roman raised characters.

The piazza is inclosed, and the shops brought quite to the front. A balcony supported by columns carrying a regular entablature and plain railing, will be brought out in front, so as to leave a walk eight feet clear. The whole when finished will have a very handsome appearance, and be an ornament to the Market-place, being all stuccoed and coloured to imitate stone.

The front is now certainly very grand, though it must be admitted, that the architect may have been cramped in his design, by being under the necessity of blending old and new work together : the general position of the windows is the same as in the old front, except the large window in the centre.

## CHARTERS.

The following charter of Henry the Second, mentioned page 255, is supposed to be the oldest extant :—

Henry, King of England, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, Count of Adegavia. To the Archbishops, Bishops, Viscounts, Barons, Sheriffs, Ministers, and all our faithful subjects, Frenchmen and Englishmen, of all England, *greeting*.—Know ye that I have granted, and by this my charter have confirmed to the burgesses of Nottingham, all those free customs which they had in the time of King Henry our grandfather, namely, *TOL*, *THEAM*, *INFANGENTHEOF*, and *THELONIA\**, from Thurmaston (supposed Thrumpton) to Newark of all persons passing the Trent, as fully as in our borough of Nottingham, and in the other part in the brooke beyond Rempston to the water of Radford, (supposed now Retford) in Nottinghamshire. The men of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire ought to come to the borough of Nottingham on Friday and Saturday with their teams and horse-loads. No one ought to work dyed cloths within ten leagues in circuit of the town of Nottingham, unless within the borough of Nottingham. And if any one, from whencesoever he may come, shall be and remain in the borough of Nottingham, a year and a day, in time of peace, without molestation, no one afterwards but the king shall have jurisdiction

\* For an explanation of the terms Tol, Theam, Infangentheof, and Thelonia, see pages 265 and 266.

over him. And whosoever of the burgesses shall buy land of his neighbour, and shall possess it for one whole year and a day, without molestation of the relations of the vender, (if such kindred shall be in England,) shall afterwards possess it quietly. Nor shall any one of the burgesses, unless criminally accused, answer to the Reeve of Nottingham, unless there shall appear a prosecutor for the offence. And whosoever shall remain in the borough, of whatever demesne he shall be, he ought to pay taxes to make up the tribute and deficiencies of the borough with the burgesses. Also all those who shall come to Nottingham market from the afternoon of Friday to the afternoon of Saturday, shall not be distrained, but for the rent paid to the king. And the passage of the Trent ought to be free to all navigators as far as one perch in breadth shall extend on both sides of the course of the water. And we will and firmly enjoin that the aforesaid burgesses shall have and hold the aforesaid customs well and in peace, and freely and quietly and honorably and fully, as they had in the time of King Henry our father.

*These persons being witnesses to this grant,*

WILLIAM OF BRASIC.

WILLIAM OF CAISNOW.

WILLIAM OF LANNALES.

RAMILPHUS BEING SHERIFF.

#### CHARTER OF HENRY THE SIXTH.

The King to all to whom these presents shall come, *greeting*.—We have inspected the charter of his Majesty Henry, late King of England, our father, made in these words:—"Henry, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Justices, and Sheriffs, Reeves, and all his Bailiffs, and faithful subjects, *greeting*."

We have inspected the letters patent of his Majesty Richard, late King of England, the Second after the Conquest, made in these words:—"Richard, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to all to whom these present letters patent shall come, *greeting*."

We have inspected the charter of his Majesty Edward, late King of England, our grandfather, made in these words:—"Edward, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, to Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Reeves, and to all his Bailiffs, and faithful subjects, *greeting*."

We have inspected the charter of his Majesty Edward, late King of England, our father, of happy memory, made in these words:—"Edward, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, to Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Reeves, Ministers, and to all his Bailiffs, and faithful subjects, *greeting*."

We have inspected the charter of confirmation which his Majesty Henry, heretofore King of England, our grandfather, made to the burgesses of Nottingham, in these words:—"Henry, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitaine, and Earl of Angers, to Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Reeves, Ministers, and to all his Bailiffs, and faithful subjects, *greeting*."

We have inspected the charter of King John, our father, made to the burgesses of Nottingham, in these words:—"John, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of



Normandy and Aquitaine, and Earl of Angers, to Archbishops, Bishops, Priors, Abbots, Earls, Barons, Justices, and to all his Bailiffs and faithful subjects of *all* England, *greeting.*"

Know ye then that we have granted, and by this our charter do grant to our burgesses of Nottingham, all those free customs which they had in the time of Kings Henry our grandfather, and Henry our father; as by the charter of Henry our father doth appear (to wit) that they have THOL, THEAM, IUFONGETHEF, and THEOLONIA, from Thrumpton to Newark, and of all things passing over the Trent, in as full a manner as within the borough of Nottingham on the south, and on the north from the brooke beyond Rempstone to the river of Retford and Vicker's Dike. That the men of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire come to the borough of Nottingham on Friday and Saturday, with their waggons drawn with four horses, and their horse-loads, nor shall any persons dye cloth, unless within the borough of Nottingham, and within ten miles thereof. And if any person, (in the time of peace,) whencesoever he come, and not demanded of his lord, continue in this borough a year and a day, no one shall afterwards have lawful claim of him, except the king himself. If any burgesses shall purchase land of his neighbour, and shall have possession thereof a year and a day, without any demand of the kindred of the seller (they being in England,) he shall afterwards have quiet possession of the same, nor shall he answer any charge before the reeve of the said borough, unless there be an accuser. And of whatever demesne a man be, if he abide within the borough, he shall pay the rates and contribute to make up the deficiencies of the same. And all who shall come to Nottingham market shall not be distrained from Friday evening to Saturday evening, unless for tribute due to us. And the passage of the river (Trent) shall be free for the purpose of navigation, one perch on each side the water. And we furthermore, of our own proper gift, and by this our charter, do confirm to our said burgesses, a merchant-guild, with all the privileges and free customs incident, and that do pertain thereto; and that they be free of toll throughout our land, as well in as out of marts, and that they have power of themselves, at the end of the year, from among themselves, to appoint a reeve to answer for them the tribute due to us. Nevertheless, if such reeve be displeasing to us, we shall remove him, and they must appoint another in his stead, agreeable to our will. And we have likewise granted to the said burgesses, that such reeve, so appointed, shall pay our tribute of the said borough into our exchequer, wherever it be in England, at two terms, (to wit,) one-half at the close of Easter, the other at the octave of St. Michael:—Wherefore it is our pleasure, and we do strictly command, that the burgesses aforesaid truly, honorably, quietly, and peaceably enjoy the same, in as full and ample manner as in the time of Henry our grandfather, and Henry our father, together with such other privileges as we have granted:—And we furthermore forbid any one to interfere with, or presume to molest the said burgesses in any manner contrary to the meaning and intent of this our charter, under the penalty of forfeiting ten pounds, as we by our reasonable charter have granted and confirmed to them when Earl of Morton.

*Witness,* G. SON OF PETER, EARL OF ESSEX.

W. BREVERE.

HUGO BARD.

B. SON OF ROGER.

W. DE STUDWELL.

HENRY DE NEVILL.

S. DE PATER.

G. DE NORFOLK.

Given under the hands of

SIMON, ARCHDEACON OF WELLS.

JOHN DE GREY, ARCHDEACON OF CLIVELAND.

At Clipston, the nineteenth day of March, in the first year of our reign.

And these gifts and donations being agreeable to us, we do for ourselves and our heirs ratify and confirm the same to the burgesses aforesaid, And we have, of our own proper gift, granted, and by this our charter confirmed, for ourself and our heirs, to the said burgesses and their heirs, that they pay the said tribute of fifty-two pounds a year, on two terms, into our Exchequer, (to wit) seventy-six pounds (*blanch*) at the close of Easter, and twenty-six pounds (*blanch*) at the octave of St. Michael; and that they and their heirs hold the said town of Nottingham by the said rent of fifty-two pounds as aforesaid. We also, for ourself and our heirs, have granted to the said burgesses and their heirs, that they take tonnage of all merchandize of weight within the said town of Nottingham, as is customary to be taken in other towns and cities throughout England. And that they have coroners from among themselves in the said town of Nottingham. And we will and strictly command, that the burgesses aforesaid have and hold, of our own proper gift, well, peaceably, freely, and quietly, the liberties, usages, and customs aforesaid, (to wit) that they pay every year into our Exchequer, the said fifty-two pounds (*blanch*) that they and their heirs hold the said town by the tribute of the said fifty-two pounds (*blanch*), that they take tonnage as aforesaid, and have coroners from among themselves, in the said town of Nottingham, as aforesaid.

*Witness,*

J. BATH.

R. DURHAM.

W. CARLISLE.

H. DE BURGH, EARL HAUC, CHIEF JUSTICE OF ENGLAND.

HUGO DE NEVILL.

GALFRED DE LUCY.

STEPHEN DE SEDGRAVE.

RALPH, SON OF NICHOLAS DE CAPELLA.

HEN. DE CAPELLA, AND OTHERS.

Given under the hand of the Right Reverend Father R. Cicester, bishop, our Chancellor, at Westminster, the 24th day of February, in the fourteenth year of our reign.

We have also inspected a certain other charter which our said grandfather made to the said burgesses in these words:—

“ Henry, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and Earl of Angers, to all Archbishops, bishops, abbots, priors, earls, barons, justices, sheriffs, reeves, ministers, and all bailiffs, and his faithful subjects, greeting.”

Know ye that we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed to our burgesses of Nottingham and their heirs for ever, that they shall, throughout the whole land, and wheresoever we have jurisdiction, enjoy the following privileges, (to wit) that neither they nor their goods shall be attached for any debts for which they are not bound, or are not principal debtors; unless, as may be, they be of the commonalty, and are able to satisfy the same, wholly or in part, as shall be made reasonable to appear, justice being refused to be done to the creditors by the said burgesses. And we also, by this our charter, have granted and confirmed to the said burgesses, that they have

for ever the return of all writs of summons of our Exchequer, of all things pertaining to our said borough of Nottingham, so that no sheriff, bailiff, or other our officer enter to execute such writs of summons, or make distress within our said borough, unless in default of the burgesses or bailiffs of the borough aforesaid: wherefore we will and strictly command, for ourselves and our heirs, that the said burgesses and their heirs for ever, have the liberties and prescriptions aforesaid; and we forbid any one, on pain of the penalty of ten pounds aforesaid, in any wise unlawfully to molest, or disturb them the said burgesses.

*Witness,* ROGER DE PICOT, EARL OF NORFOLK, MARSHAL OF ENGLAND.  
RALPH, SON OF N. DE LESSINGHAM.  
JOHN DE LESSINGHAM.  
RICHARD DE GREY.  
WILLIAM DE GREY.  
IMBERT PIC — — —\*.  
WAN KELIN DE ARDEN.  
PETER EVERED.  
WILLIAM GERMYN, AND OTHERS.

Given under our hand, at Nottingham, the twentieth day of July, in the thirty-ninth year of our reign.

Moreover, we have inspected a charter which Edward, our father, late King of England, of happy memory, made to the burgesses of Nottingham in these words:—

“Edward, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitain; to all Archbishops, Bishops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Justices, Sheriffs, Reeves, Officers, and all his Bailiffs and faithful subjects, *greeting.*”

Whereas we, for certain offences committed by the burgesses and commonalty of our town of Nottingham, under pretence of privileges of the same, have, for more than three years, taken the said town and liberties thereof into our hands:—We, being desirous to confer an especial favor upon the said burgesses and commonalty, have restored to them the said town, with all the privileges which the burgesses and men thereof heretofore held, by virtue of the charters of the Kings of England our predecessors, by granting to the said burgesses, for ourself and our heirs, to the said burgesses and commonalty, to enjoy and use the said liberties in the same manner they enjoyed and used the same at the time of the seizure of the said town into our hands, according to the tenor of the charter aforesaid:—Nevertheless, that they and their successors pay, every year, into our exchequer, out of the said town, fifty-two pounds, as they were used to do, and the additional sum of eight pounds yearly. And for bettering the state of the burgesses and men of the said town, we have granted that they chuse, from among themselves, a mayor, which mayor (the burgesses of each borough being assembled) they shall unanimously and freely choose, every year, on the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, that he may have precedence over the bailiffs and others of the said town, in all things that pertain to the governing and aid of the same. And immediately after the election of such mayor, each borough shall chuse a bailiff, according to the custom of the said boroughs, who shall perform the several duties pertaining to his office. And that the said burgesses and their successors, besides the fair that they have for eight days on the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, have forever another annual fair in the said town, to begin on the eve and day of the feast

of St. Edmund the King and Martyr, to continue the twelve following days, unless it may prove detrimental to any neighbouring fair held at that time.—Wherefore we will, and strictly command for ourself and our heirs, that the aforesaid burgesses and men, and their successors, besides their fair for eight days at the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, forever have another annual fair in the said town for fifteen days, on the vigil of the day and the morrow of the feast of St. Edmund the King and Martyr, with all the privileges and free customs appertaining to fairs of this sort, unless it may prove detrimental to any fairs held at that time, as aforesaid.

*Witness,*

R. BATH AND WELLS.

A. DURHAM.

T. DE CLARE.

JOHN DE VESEY.

R. DE TIBITOT.

ROBERT SON OF JOHN ———, AND OTHERS.

Given under our hand at Lincoln, the 11th day of February, in the twelfth year of our reign.

And we, being well pleased with the aforesaid grants, confirmations, and restitutions aforesaid, do grant and confirm the same to the burgesses, their heirs and successors, burgesses of the said town, as the charters aforesaid reasonably make appear. And furthermore, we have granted to them, for ourself and our heirs, that notwithstanding they or their predecessors, burgesses of the said town, may not hitherto have used any or either of the aforesaid privileges, nevertheless that they, their heirs and successors, may fully use and enjoy the said privileges, or either of them, without let or hindrance of us, our heirs, justices, escheators, bailiffs, or other our ministers whatsoever.—And being moreover desirous to confer a still greater favor upon the said burgesses, we have, for ourself and our heirs, granted to them, for the bettering the state of our said town of Nottingham, for the ease of our said burgesses, and that they may be enabled the more readily to manage the affairs of trade, that none of them, the said burgesses, shall implead or be impleaded, before us or our heirs, out of the said borough, of lands or tenements which are within the same, or of trespasses, contracts, or of other things whatsoever, done or arising within the said borough; but that all pleas of suit that shall happen to be summoned before us, our heirs, justices of bench, or others, out of the town aforesaid, shall be pleaded and determined before the mayor and bailiffs of the said borough, for the time being, within the said borough, unless such pleas shall concern us, our heirs, or the community of the said borough. And furthermore that they, the said burgesses, be not put with men not of the said borough in any assizes, juries, or inquests that shall happen to be made before the justices or other officers of us, or our heirs, on account of lands, tenements, trespasses, contracts, or any other matters whatsoever, not arising within the same. And that men out of the said borough be not put with the burgesses in any assizes, juries, or inquests, by reason of lands, tenements, trespasses, contracts, or any other matters whatsoever arising within the same; but that such assizes, juries, and inquests, shall be made by the burgesses of the said borough only, unless the matter in issue concern us, our heirs, or the community of the said borough. And furthermore, whereas notwithstanding our said burgesses, by virtue of the charters aforesaid, have the return of our writs and summonses of our Exchequer, in all matters pertaining to the said borough, some of our officers, and those of our

predecessors have entered the same, and made distresses and attachments which ought to have been made by the bailiffs of the said borough: *Now* we have granted for ourself and our heirs, that no sheriff, bailiff, or other officer whatsoever of us or our heirs, shall enter into the said borough to make summonses, attachments, distresses, or do any other duties therein, unless in default of the bailiffs of the said borough for the time being. We also grant, for ourself and our heirs, to the said burgesses, their heirs and successors, that they be for ever quit of *murage, stallage, tarrage, kaiage, and passage*, throughout all our dominions.

*Witness,*      W. CANTERBURY.  
                   W. COVENTRY AND LITCHFILD.  
                   ADAM DE VALENTIA, EARL OF PEMBROKE.  
                   HUMPHREY DE BOHUN, EARL OF HEREFORD AND ESSEX.  
                   HUGO DISPENSER.  
                   WILLIAM LE LATYMER.  
                   THEOBALD DE VERDON.  
                   EDMUND DE MALO LACU, STEWARD OF OUR HOUSEHOLD, AND OTHERS.

Given under our hand, at Westminster, the sixteenth day of March, in the seventh year of our reign.

And we being well pleased with the grants, confirmations, and restitutions aforesaid, as far as in us lies, do grant and confirm the same, for ourself and our heirs, to the said burgesses and their heirs and successors, burgesses of the said town, as by the said charter more fully may appear.—And whereas the said town of Nottingham, together with the liberties thereof, was for certain causes seized into our hands by our well-beloved and faithful William de Herle and his brethren itinerant, justices within the said county of Nottingham:—Now we being desirous to do the said mayor and burgesses an especial favor herein, have restored to them the said town, with all the liberties aforesaid, to have and hold the same to them, their heirs and successors, burgesses of the said town, for ever, in as full and ample a manner as by the charters aforesaid they were wont to hold the same, before the seizure aforesaid. And furthermore, whereas it is contained in a charter of our said great-grandfather King Henry, that the aforesaid burgesses and their heirs for ever, should have the return of all writs of summons issuing out of the Exchequer of our aforesaid great-grandfather and his heirs, in all things pertaining to the said borough; and that no sheriff or bailiff, or other officer whatsoever of our said great-grandfather or his heirs, should enter into the said borough to make summons, attachment, distresses, or any other duties, unless in default of the bailiffs of the said town—and the said burgesses and their predecessors having hitherto had the return of all writs of our ancestors and of us, as well of our Exchequer as of all other writs whatsoever pertaining to the affairs of the said town: We therefore being desirous to provide for the security of the said burgesses, that they may not herein suffer molestation in future, have, for ourself and our heirs, granted and confirmed, that they, their heirs and successors aforesaid, have for ever the return of all writs, as well Exchequer as others in anywise relating to the affairs of the said borough; so that no sheriff, bailiff, or other officer of us or our heirs, shall enter the said borough to make any summonses, attachments, distresses, or do any other duties within the same, unless in fault of the bailiffs of the said borough. And whereas it is found upon a certain inquisition

taken by the aforesaid William, and our beloved and faithful Nicholas Falstof, by our command, returned into our Chancery, that the said burgesses, time immemorial, to the time of granting the aforesaid charter of our ancestor King John, and since (by prescription) have had in the said town of Nottingham a gaol, for the custody of persons taken or attached within the said town, and that the said gaol was in the keeping of the persons who had the government of the said town, as well while in the hands of our ancestors, as in the hands of the burgesses as belonging thereto:—We being desirous to confer upon them an especial favor herein, and for the better security of the said town, have granted and by this our charter do confirm, that the said burgesses, their heirs and successors for ever, have the said gaol in the said town, for the custody of such persons as shall happen to be taken or attached for any cause whatsoever within the said town. Furthermore, whereas the said burgesses, under pretence of the words in the charters aforesaid, *that the men of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire come to the said borough of Nottingham with their waggon and horse loads, on Friday and Saturday in every week*, hold a market in the said borough, having regard to their security herein, we have graciously granted to them, and by this our charter have confirmed, that they, their heirs and successors for ever, have and hold the said market on Saturday in every week, together with all the privileges and free customs to a market of this kind appertaining, not willing that the said burgesses should be troubled, molested, or aggrieved by us, our heirs, or any of our officers in any respect, either in time past or time to come, on account of the said market. And we have granted, and by this our charter confirmed, that they, the said burgesses, their heirs and successors, be for ever quit of pontage throughout the land; and we will and strictly command for ourself and our heirs, that the said burgesses and their heirs and successors for ever, have and hold the aforesaid town, with all its privileges, and that they also have for ever the return of all writs of us and our heirs, as well the summonses of our Exchequer, as all other writs whatsoever, that they have the same goal and market, with all liberties and free customs belonging to markets of this kind, and that they be quit of pontage, as aforesaid, throughout our land.

*Witness,* H. LINCOLN, CHANCELLOR,  
JOHN WINCHESTER.  
R. COVENTRY AND LICHFIELD.  
JOHN DE ELTHAM, EARL CORNWALL, OUR WELL-BELOVED BROTHER.  
ROGER EARL MARCH.  
WILLIAM DE MONT. ACUT.  
JOHN MONTRAVERS, STEWARD OF OUR HOUSEHOLD, AND OTHERS.

Given under our hand at Woodstock, the first day of May, in the fourth year of our reign.

Now we being well pleased with the grants, confirmations, and restitutions aforesaid, do grant and confirm, as far as in us lies, for ourself and our heirs, to the burgesses of Nottingham and their heirs and successors, burgesses of the said town, as the aforesaid charters do reasonably witness, and as the aforesaid burgesses and their predecessors the said liberties and acquittances have reasonably used and enjoyed.

Witness ourself at Westminster, the 8th day of April, in the first year of our reign.—And we being well pleased with all and singular the grants, confirmations, and restitutions aforesaid, do,

for ourself and our heirs, as far as in us lies, accept, approve, and ratify, and do grant and confirm the same, to our said beloved burgesses and their successors burgesses of the said town, as the charters aforesaid reasonably make appear. And furthermore, being willing to confer a still greater favor on the said burgesses, we have, of our especial grace, for ourself and our heirs, granted to the said burgesses, as far as in us lies, that notwithstanding they or their predecessors may not on some occasions have made full use of the liberties and acquittances in the aforesaid charters contained,—nevertheless, that they, their heirs and successors may enjoy and use the liberties and acquittances aforesaid, without hindrance or molestation of us, our heirs, escheators, bailiffs, or other officers of us or our heirs whomsoever.—Furthermore being desirous on account of their manifold deserts, to confer a still greater share of our favor upon the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said town, their heirs and successors, we have, of our own certain knowledge, especial grace, and with the consent of our privy council, for ourself and our heirs, granted, and by this our charter do confirm, to the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, that they, their heirs and successors, shall for ever have cognizance of all pleas, by the mayor and bailiffs of the said town for the time being, or such others as they shall appoint, (to wit) as well as of all lands, tenements and rents within the said town, as of trespasses, agreements, contracts, matters of trade, arising and made within the liberties and precincts of the said town, and of which persons holding of, or residents within the said borough shall be parties. And also of pleas of assize and tenures within the said liberty that shall happen to be taken, assigned, or arraigned before the justices of us or our heirs at the assizes for the county of Nottingham, and that the justices themselves when the cognizance of such pleas shall be demanded in proper form, on the part of the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, shall accede to the same, and forthwith deliver up to the said mayor and bailiffs, or whom they may appoint, the said pleas, original writs and processes, if any such have been had.—And that the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, their heirs and successors, shall for ever have the chattels of felons and fugitives for crimes committed on or against tenants of, or residents within the liberties aforesaid. Or if any one ought, for any crime, to lose life or limb, or do flee to avoid judgment thereon, or hath been guilty of any offence for which he ought to forfeit his chattels, let what court soever have cognizance of such offence, our court, or that of our heirs, or any court whatsoever, the chattels of such felons and fugitives shall nevertheless belong to the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, and their heirs and successors :—and it shall be lawful for them and their officers, without any hinderance from us, our heirs, sheriffs, bailiffs, or other our officers, to seize the chattels aforesaid, and keep the same to the use of the said mayor, bailiffs and burgesses, and their heirs and successors aforesaid. And we further grant that the said mayor, bailiffs and burgesses, and their successors, shall for ever have all fines for trespasses, and other offences whatsoever :—all post-fines, amerciaments, issues of pledges forfeited and to be forfeited, year-and-day wastes, estrepement, and all things that could pertain to us and our heirs, of the said year-and-day waste, murders, men and tenements of the said town, as well such as shall be taken amerced, levied, and adjudged in our court of exchequer, before our justices of bench, the steward and marshal of the household of us and our heirs for the time being, as also before the justices itinerant for the trial of common pleas and pleas of the forest, or any other justices

or ministers belonging to us or our heirs, as well in the presence as in the absence of us or our heirs ; which said fines, amerciaments, issues of pledges, year-and-day wastes, estrepe-ments, &c. as aforesaid, would otherwise have belonged to us or our heirs, had the same not been granted to the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses aforesaid, and that the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, levy and receive the said fines, amerciaments, issues, forfeitures, &c. as aforesaid, by themselves and ministers, without any let or hinderance of the justices, escheators, sheriffs, coroners, bailiffs, or other officers whatsoever belonging to us or our heirs. And we likewise grant that the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses for ever have the return of all writs and summonses issuing from the exchequer of us and our heirs, and of attachments, as well in pleas of the crown as in all other cases whatsoever within the limits of the fee of the town aforesaid, and the execution of the said writs and summonses ; and that no sheriff, bailiff, or other officer of us or our heirs, do enter into the liberty aforesaid for the purpose of executing such writs and summonses, or attachments of pleas of the crown, or other attachments, or do any other duty there, except in default of the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, and their heirs and successors. And we also, for ourself and our heirs, of our own certain knowledge, and with the consent aforesaid, have granted to the said mayor and burgesses, and their successors, that they have all perprestures of lands, waters, and wastes, that now are, or hereafter may be deemed such, within the limits and boundaries of the town aforesaid, in support of the burthens and daily exigencies of the same. And we have likewise granted, that they, their heirs and successors as aforesaid, have for ever power to hear, determine, correct, and punish (by the mayor, recorder, and four other good and lawful men, to be chosen by the mayor of the said town for the time being, and his successors for ever,) all matters, complaints, defaults, causes, and articles cognizable by justices of the peace, of labourers and artificers, in as full and ample manner as justices of the peace of the county of Nottingham have heretofore had and exercised. Moreover, that our justices of peace of labourers and artificers of the county aforesaid, shall not in any wise hereafter take cognizance of any things, causes, plaints, matters, defaults, or other articles whatsoever, belonging to such justices within the town aforesaid, and the jurisdiction of the same, but nevertheless, that the aforesaid mayor, recorder, and four good and lawful men of the said town aforesaid, may not proceed to determine any felony, without special mandate of us or our heirs. And that the aforesaid mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, and their heirs and successors for ever, have all fines, issues, amerciaments, and profits - - - awarded by the said justices, as fully as the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the town of Coventry have had the like, by virtue of charters of the Kings of England, before the sixth day of April, in the twenty-second year of the reign of the aforesaid late King Richard the Second, and by him ratified and confirmed. And furthermore, when ever hereafter an array of bowmen or light horse shall, by virtue of a commission or mandate of us or our heirs, be made within the said town of Nottingham, the mayor thereof, for the time being, shall be joined in such commission or mandate with other persons assigned by us to make such array, and without he be so joined, no such array shall in any wise be made. And we will and grant, for us and our heirs, with the consent aforesaid, that the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, and their heirs and successors, shall not on any account be denied, restrained, diminished, or



abbreviated in the enjoyment of either or any of the franchises, liberties, privileges, immunities, easements, and acquittances, granted to the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said town of Nottingham by our ancestors, and confirmed by us to the now mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said town:—But that the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, and their successors, shall for ever have, hold, and exercise those franchises, liberties, privileges, immunities, easements, acquittances, and customs, in every respect as fully as the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the town of Nottingham, their predecessors, have, by grant and confirmation of our ancestors, for ever had and enjoyed.

*Witness,*

TH. CANTERBURY, PRIMATE OF ALL ENGLAND.

R. EBOR, PRIMATE OF ENGLAND:

R. LONDON.

W. WINCHESTER.

I. ELY.

H. LINCOLN.

EDMUND DUKE OF YORK, OUR BELOVED UNCLE.

THOMAS WARWICK.

HENRY NORTHUMBERLAND,

JOHN NORBURY, OUR TREASURER.

WILLIAM ROOS HAMELACK.

WILLIAM WILLOUGHBY.

JOHN COBHAM.

THOMAS ERPINGHAM, OUR CHAMBERLAIN.

THOMAS REMPSTON, STEWARD OF OUR HOUSEHOLD.

RICHARD CLIFFORD, KEEPER OF OUR PRIVY SEAL, AND OTHERS.

Given under our hand, at Westminster, the eighteenth day of November, in the first year of our reign.

And we do, by tenor of these presents, as far as in us lies, for ourself and our heirs, accept, approve, ratify, and to our said beloved mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said town, their heirs and successors, all and singular the grants, confirmations and restitutions aforesaid, as the charters aforesaid do reasonably make appear, that the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said town, may use and enjoy the said liberties and acquittances, that the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, their ancestors, reasonably used and enjoyed, from the time of the making of the charters aforesaid, In testimony whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent.—Witness ourself at Leicester, the 24th day of May, in the second year of our reign.

And we do, for ourself, our heirs and successors, as far as in us lies, accept, approve, and ratify, to our now beloved mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said town, their heirs and successors, all and singular the franchises, liberties, privileges, easements, and immunities, concessions, confirmations and restitutions aforesaid, as by the charters aforesaid do appear, or as the said mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of Nottingham, and their predecessors used, or ought to have had and enjoyed, the disuse or abuse of any such privileges, liberties, easements, or immunities notwithstanding.

And furthermore, we have, of our abundant grace, mere motion, and certain knowledge, granted, and by these presents do confirm, for ourself, our heirs and successors, to the burgesses of the said

town of Nottingham, their heirs and successors, that the said town of Nottingham, that hath for a long time been a town corporate, be henceforth, for ever, a town corporate, and that the said mayor and burgesses, and the mayor and burgesses their successors of the said town, be a corporate body in fact and in name, by the name of *mayor* and *burgesses* of the town of Nottingham—that they have a perpetual succession, and that the mayor and burgesses be deemed fit and capable to sustain, prosecute, defend, and plead by that name, to all kind of pleas, suits, plaints, and demands in actions, real personal, and mixt, brought by and against them, in any courts of us, our heirs, or successors, as well in our courts of King's Bench and Chancery as any other, and all other temporal and spiritual judges and justices whatsoever. And that the said mayor and burgesses of the town aforesaid, and their heirs and successors, by the name of mayor and burgesses aforesaid, be capable to acquire and hold all lands, tenements, possessions, and hereditaments to them, their heirs and successors for ever.

And of our more abundant grace and favour, mere motion, and certain knowledge, we have, for ourself, our heirs and successors, granted to the now mayor and burgesses of the town of Nottingham, and the mayor and burgesses of the said town their successors, that the said town of Nottingham and the precincts thereof, as they now extend and belong to the body of the county of Nottingham, be for ever, after the 15th day of September next ensuing, separate, distinct, and divided from the same, as well by land as water, our castle, and our gaol of our counties of Nottingham and Derby, called king's hall, only excepted—and that the said town of Nottingham, and the precincts of the same, unless as before excepted, after the said 15th day of September, be a county of itself, and not a parcel of the said county of Nottingham, and that except, as before excepted, the said town of Nottingham be for ever called, held and reckoned to be the county of the town of Nottingham.

And that the said now burgesses of the said town, and the successors of the burgesses of the same, instead of two bailiffs for ever, have two sheriffs in the said town and precincts thereof, to be chosen from among themselves to hold the office of sheriff of the said town, except as before excepted, to the day of the feast of St. Michael the Archangel next ensuing, for that day, and until two other burgesses of the said town shall be chosen into the office of sheriff of the said town, and the precincts of the same, except as before excepted, and that annually on the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, they, the said sheriffs, shall be for ever chosen and made in manner following, (*viz*):

The mayor and burgesses of the said town of Nottingham, shall, every year, instead of two bailiffs, choose, from among themselves, two fit persons into the office of sheriffs of the said town, and precincts of the same, except as before excepted, in the same manner as the said burgesses were accustomed to choose the bailiffs of the said town, and the burgesses so chosen shall immediately after their election into that office, take the oaths before the mayor for the lawful and due performance of the same—nor shall they go out of the said town to take the same;—and the names of the said sheriffs shall be sent into the Chancery of us, our heirs and successors every year, within twelve days after such election, under the seal of the said mayor of the said town of Nottingham aforesaid. That the mayor that now is, be escheator, and that whatever burgess be hereafter chosen mayor of the said town, be immediately escheator of us, our heirs and successors,

the whole of the time such burgess shall continue mayor ; and that hereafter there shall be no other escheator of sheriff in or for the said town of Nottingham, and the precincts of the same, than from among the burgesses, in manner aforesaid. And that the escheator and sheriffs of the said town, and the precincts of the same, except as before excepted, have the power, jurisdiction, privilege, and whatever appertains to the offices of escheators and sheriffs of us, our heirs and successors, and which other escheators and sheriffs of any place within our kingdom of England have, should have, might have, or claim right to. And that all and singular such writs, precepts or mandates, that heretofore were accustomed, or ought to have been served by the sheriff of Nottingham, or the bailiffs of the said town, and the precincts of the same, shall immediately from and after the said fifteenth day of September, be directed to, demanded and executed by the sheriffs of the said town.

And that the sheriffs of the said town, and the precincts thereof, and other sheriffs for time to come, shall, in future, hold their county court on Monday in every month within the said town, for the said town, and the precincts of the same, in such manner as other sheriffs, at other places within our kingdom, or as other sheriffs of us, our heirs and successors hold, or ought to hold their county courts in other parts of our kingdom.

And that the said now burgesses of the said town and their successors for ever, hold a court, at their pleasure, of all and singular contracts, covenants and trespasses, as well against the peace as otherwise, and of all other things, causes, and matters whatsoever, arising within the said town and the precincts thereof, except as before excepted, to be held from day to day in the guildhall of the said town, before the mayor of the said town, or his deputy, and the sheriffs of the same for the time being, and that the mayor of the town for the time being, and the sheriffs for the time being, from the aforesaid fifteenth day of September, have power and authority in that court to hear and determine all kinds of pleas, suits, complaints, causes and demands, of all actions, real, personal, and mixt, within the said town, and the liberty and precincts of the same, except as before excepted, to be brought, as well in the presence of us, our heirs and successors, as in our absence, with all kinds of fees issuing or arising to the said sheriffs out of the said court, to their own proper use, without let or impediment of us, our heirs and successors, or any the justices of us, our heirs or successors ; the steward or marshal of our household shall not take cognizance of pleas, trespasses, contracts, covenants, things, or matters, within the said town, or liberties of the same, except as before excepted ; nor shall any one intermeddle within the same. And that the same escheator and sheriffs within the said town of Nottingham, for the time being, do severally, every year, account before the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer of us, our heirs and successors, by their attorney severally appointed, or to be appointed, by letters patent under the seal of office of the escheator and sheriffs of the said town, and that such account, so made before the treasurer and barons aforesaid, by such attorneys, instead of such escheator and sheriffs, shall be deemed of sufficient force and effect.

Furthermore, that the said escheator and sheriffs of the said town of Nottingham, their successors, or any of them, within the said town, shall in no case be liable personably to account for the same, and the escheator of the said town of Nottingham shall, for ever, every year, forthwith upon his

election, take the oath of office, faithfully to execute the same, before one or both coroners, within the town of Nottingham, and not elsewhere. And be it always provided, that within twelve days after the election of the mayor of the said town, the name of his escheator shall, every year, be certified to the exchequer of us, our heirs and successors, under the seal of office of the said mayor.

And of our mere motion and certain knowledge, we have, for ourself, our heirs and successors, granted to our now burgesses of the said town of Nottingham and their successors for ever; the chattels of all persons convicted of felonies, murders, and any other offences, as well at the suit of us, our heirs and successors, as of any persons whomsoever, of outlaws and felo-de-se, and deodand within the said town and precincts thereof, except as before excepted. And the said now burgesses of the said town, and their successors, for ever have all amerciaments, redemptions, issues, forfeitures, and all fines for trespasses, offences, neglects, misprisons and contempts whatsoever, post-fines, and all things which in any wise pertain to us, our heirs and successors, of all persons whomsoever having or holding within the town of Nottingham, whether altogether or in part having residence in the same, (to wit) of all kinds of pledges and manucaptures of persons within the same, in our Courts of King's Bench, Chancery, Exchequer, Steward of our household, for the time being, Justices Itinerant, Common Pleas, and Pleas of the forest, as well in the presence as in the absence of us, our heirs and successors—and that they, the said burgesses, may themselves, or by their officers, levy, take, receive and enjoy all fines, amerciaments, redemptions, issues, forfeitures, and all other things that would have pertained to us, our heirs and successors, had this grant never been made, to levy, take, and have the same without any let or impediment of us, our heirs and successors, our justices, escheators, sheriffs, coroners, or other our bailiffs or ministers whatsoever.

And of our more abundant grace and favor, mere motion and certain knowledge, we do, for ourself, our heirs and successors, grant to the now burgesses of the said town of Nottingham, their heirs and successors, that they the said burgesses, their heirs and successors, do, from time to time, choose from among themselves, seven aldermen, one of which is to be elected to, and serve the office of mayor of the said town.—That such aldermen, so chosen, shall continue in office during life, unless they or any of them, at his or their special request, *made to the rest of the burgesses* of the said town, for the time being, or for some other notable cause, the said alderman or aldermen removed by the said mayor and burgesses; or, in case such alderman or aldermen die, or for some other cause he or they be removed from his or their office, that the then mayor and burgesses of the town aforesaid, have power and authority to choose from among themselves one or more alderman or aldermen instead of the alderman or aldermen so dying, departing, or removed, according to the tenor of these presents, and so from time to time, upon the death, departure, or removal of any alderman of the said town in manner aforesaid.

And that the aldermen of the said town be justices of us, our heirs and successors for the time being, within the said town, liberties and precincts of the same, except as before excepted, for ever to keep the peace within the same;—and that seven, six, five, four, and three (one of which to be the mayor of the said town for the time being) have full power and authority to hear and determine all felonies, murders, trespasses, and misprisons, as all kinds of causes, complaints, contempts, and all other wrongs whatsoever, which ought or may hereafter pertain to other justices within our

kingdom of England to hear, enquire, determine, or in any wise correct within the said town, or liberties and precincts thereof, except as before excepted:—That they have hereafter the correction and punishment of servants, labourers, and artificers, within the said town and liberties of the same, in as full and ample manner as the keepers and justices of the peace within the county of Nottingham, or any where else within our kingdom of England.

And we furthermore, of our mere motion and certain knowledge, grant, for ourself, our heirs and successors, to our burgesses of the said town, their heirs and successors, that they for ever have all fines, issues, forfeitures, amerciements awarded, or to be awarded by the mayor or any of the justices of the peace of the said town, within the liberties and precincts of the same, except as before excepted, to be levied by their proper officers, for the aid, maintenance, and support of the said town.—And that the aforesaid burgesses of the town of Nottingham aforesaid, for ever have the forfeiture of all victuals within the said town, legally forfeited, as bread, wine, and all victuals whatsoever, that pertaining to merchandise excepted.

And moreover, of our own mere motion and certain knowledge, we have granted, and for ourself, our heirs and successors, do confirm to our now aforesaid burgesses, their heirs and successors forever, that the steward and marshal of the household, or clerk of the market of us, our heirs and successors, them, or any of them, do not in our presence, or in our absence, enter, sit, enquire, or exercise any function of their respective offices, nor implead any burgesses, or other persons of the said town, within the liberties and precincts of the same, except as before excepted, for any matters, causes, pleas, complaints, or things before them, or any of them, hereafter, on any account whatever.

And we, of our own mere motion and certain knowledge, have granted and permitted, for ourself, our heirs and successors, to the now burgesses of the said town of Nottingham and their successors, that the burgesses of the said town, who for the time being, shall be aldermen of the same, shall for ever wear gowns and collars, with sleeves of one form, and livery, and furs, facings, and robings, in manner of the mayor and aldermen of our city of London, any statute or ordinance heretofore, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Nevertheless, it is our pleasure that the said escheators and sheriffs of the said town, and liberties and precincts of the same (except as before excepted) do, by their attorneys, account before the treasurer and barons of the exchequer, of all things that of right belong to us, our heirs or successors, as the escheators and sheriffs of our said county of Nottingham, or one or any of them would have accounted for before the said treasurer and barons of the exchequer of us, our heirs and successors, if this present charter had not been:—except of all manner of fines, issues, amerciements, and forfeitures, before the justices of the peace of the said town, and the precincts of the same, except as before excepted, and of certain premises by us granted to the said mayor and burgesses, by virtue of these presents.

Provided *always*, that the now mayor and burgesses of the said town of Nottingham, and their successors, be in no wise excluded, barred, or estopped of any of the liberties, franchises, and privileges, to be had and claimed by the said mayor and burgesses, or bailiffs and burgesses of the said town, by their acceptance of these presents; but that it be lawful for the said mayor and

burgesses, and their successors, to claim, enjoy and have, of their own right and title, all and singular the liberties, privileges, and franchises aforesaid, any grant of the same, or the acceptance of these presents by the said mayor and burgesses to the contrary notwithstanding:—

Wherefore it is our pleasure, and we strictly command, for ourself, our heirs and successors aforesaid, that our said burgesses of our said town, do have, hold, and exercise, to them, and every of them, all and singular the cognizances, liberties and immunities, and all other the premises above particularly expressed, fully, wholly, peaceably, and quietly, without hindrance, disturbance, molestation, or impediment of us, our heirs or successors, or the officers or ministers of our heirs and successors, or any others whomsoever, in manner and form as aforesaid, any gift or grant of us, or our ancestors, to the burgesses of the said town of Nottingham, or their predecessors, no express mention of the value of the said chattels, amerciaments, fines, issues, and premises being made, notwithstanding.

Witness the king himself at Winchester, under writ of privy seal, 28th day of June\*; five marks being paid into the hanaper.

### *CHARTER OF WILLIAM AND MARY,*

DATED OCTOBER 19, 1692.

William and Mary, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King and Queen, defenders of the Faith: To all to whom these presents, our letters, shall come, greeting,

We have inspected certain letters patent, under the great seal of England, bearing date at Westminster, the twelfth day of February, in the twentieth year of the reign of the late King James over England, France, and Ireland, and the fifty-sixth over Scotland, made and granted to the mayor and burgesses of the town of Nottingham, in these words:—

“James, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, &c.: To all to whom these presents, our letters, shall come, greeting.”

“We have inspected certain letters patent of the Lord Henry the Sixth, formerly King of England, to the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the town of Nottingham, made on the twenty-eighth day of June, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, in the records of our exchequer at Westminster, that is, in the original, in the twenty-third, amongst the rolls of the said twenty-seventh year of the late King Henry the Sixth, remaining and existing amongst the records of our treasury in our said exchequer, in these words:—

“‘The King, to all to whom, &c. &c. &c.’

“But we, at the requisition and solicitation of the present mayor and burgesses of our said town of Nottingham, have caused all the aforesaid, and each of them, to be recorded under the seal of our exchequer, by the tenor of our presents. In testimony of which thing, we have caused these our letters patent to be made; our beloved and faithful kinsman and counsellor, Lionel Earl of Middlesex, our principal treasurer of England, being witness, at Westminster, on the twelfth day of February, in the twentieth year of our reign over England, France, and Ireland, and the fifty-sixth over Scotland.”

\* Patent Roll, 27th of Henry the Sixth, p. 2. m. 6.

But, we (William and Mary,) having ratified and granted, all and each of the franchises, liberties, privileges, acquittances, immunities, grants, confirmations, and restitutions aforesaid, we accept, approve and ratify for ourselves, and heirs, and successors as far as in us lies, all and each of the franchises, liberties, privileges, acquittances, and immunities aforesaid, and to our beloved the mayor and burgesses of the said town and their successors by the tenor of these presents we grant and confirm, as the aforesaid charters rationally witness, and as the said mayor and burgesses of the said town of Nottingham or their predecessors ever ought, have been able, or have had a right to use and enjoy, the franchises, liberties, privileges, acquittances, and immunities aforesaid. It is lawful likewise with respect to the franchises, liberties, privileges, acquittances, and immunities aforesaid, each or any of which, the said mayor and burgesses or their predecessors may have not used, or used improperly. And as we are given to understand, that by the pretext of a certain instrument or writing, to which the common seal of the mayor and burgesses of the said town, through the combination of a few persons of the said town, was added and affixed, bearing date the eighteenth day of September, in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of the late King Charles the Second our predecessor of happy memory, and entered on the records of the court of Chancery of the late king aforesaid, purporting to be a concession made by the said mayor and burgesses to the said late king and his heirs and successors, of all and each of their manors, messuages, lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments, with whatsoever appurtenances from which, or in which the said mayor and burgesses then, or at any former time were in any way seized, possessed, or interested by right of their incorporation, or in their incorporated capacity in any manner whatsoever; and also purporting to be a concession and surrender by the said mayor and burgesses to the said late king, of all the franchises, charters, letters patent of incorporation, powers, liberties, and immunities whatsoever, at any time or times granted to, or enjoyed by the said mayor and burgesses or their predecessors, or any of them, in any ways or manners, or by any name or names whatsoever. Moreover by reason of the aforesaid pretended surrender and giving up, and also under the pretext or colour of divers charters or letters patent of the said corporation made and granted, or said to have been made and granted by the late King Charles the Second, and the late King James the Second, after the date of the said instrument, or pretended surrender, divers doubts, questions, and controversies, have arisen of and concerning the liberties, franchises, customs, lands and possessions, of the mayor and burgesses of the said town, and also concerning the election and continuation of certain officers of the said town.

Know ye therefore, that we (William and Mary) having the peace and tranquility of the said town, (Nottingham) and the burgesses and inhabitants thereof, much at heart, and being desirous to put an end to all doubts, disputes and controversies in this behalf, have, of our special favor, certain knowledge, and mere motion, with the advice of our privy council, assigned, nominated, ordained, constituted, and confirmed, and by these presents do assign, nominate, ordain, constitute, and confirm, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, that William Greaves, gentleman, who was mayor of the said town of Nottingham, before the above pretended surrender, be and is the present and new mayor of the said town, and that he be continued in the said office from the date of these presents to the usual time of election of mayor for the said town, on the feast of St. Michael the

Archangel, in the year of our Lord 1693, if the said William Greaves shall so long live. And furthermore, we will, and by these presents do grant, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, to the mayor and burgesses of the said town, and their successors, power and authority, from time to time, within the space of two months next after the date of these presents, to choose, nominate and appoint from among themselves, as well those that have, as those that have not served the office of sheriff, as to the mayor and major part of the burgesses shall seem best, certain of them to the office of common council of the said town, and that they are and be of the common council of the same, to choose so many and as often as may be necessary to complete the number of eighteen, within the space of two months next after the date of these presents. And furthermore, we will, and by these presents do grant and confirm, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, to the mayor and burgesses of the said town, and their successors, that after having elected in this manner, and the expiration of the aforesaid two months next after the date of these presents, it may and shall be lawful for the mayor and burgesses of the said town, and their successors, from time to time, and at all times, to choose, nominate and appoint fit persons to the office of common council of the said town, in such manner as they were used and accustomed to be chosen before the day of the date of the aforesaid pretended surrender, (viz.) the said eighteenth day of September, in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of his late majesty King Charles the Second, or any former period.

And we will that the said William Greaves, before he be admitted to perform the office of mayor of the said town, shall take the corporation oath for the due performance of the office of mayor of the said town, and likewise the oaths appointed by a certain act made and provided in our parliament, held at Westminster, in the first year of our reign, to be taken and performed before Thomas Trigge and Ralph Bennet, gentlemen, or either of them; to each and either of whom by these presents, we give and grant the full power and authority of administering the said respective oaths.

And of our more especial grace and from certain knowledge and sole inclination, we pardon, remit, and excuse, and by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, we pardon, remit and excuse to the mayor and burgesses of the said town, all and each of the matters, contempts, crimes, offences, and transgressions, which any of them have done, committed, or perpetrated, of, for, in, or concerning the performance, or the bad performance of any offices within the said town, or the limits, or precincts of the same, at any time or times after the said eighteenth day of September, in the said thirty-fourth year of the aforesaid late King Charles the Second.

And we also pardon, remit, and excuse, and by these presents for ourselves, our heirs and successors, we pardon, remit, and excuse, to all and each of the burgesses of the said town of Nottingham, all and each of the matters, contempts, crimes, offences, and transgressions whatsoever by themselves, or each, or any of them separately, or conjointly done, committed, or perpetrated, of, for, or in the performance of any office, or offices within the said town, or the limits and precincts of the same, under the colour or pretext of any letters patent of the late King Charles the Second and James the Second, or either of them, at any time or times after the said eighteenth day of September, of the said thirty-fourth year of the said King Charles the Second.

And of our more abundant grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have given, granted,



restored, confirmed and ratified, and by these presents, for ourselves, our heirs and successors, do grant, restore, confirm, and ratify to the mayor and burgesses of the town of Nottingham and their successors, all manors, messuages, mills, revenues, lands, tenements, tithes, meadows, grounds, pastures, common-rights, feasts, fairs, markets, together with all powers, prescriptions, liberties, privileges, franchises, immunities, jurisdictions, charters, letters patent of incorporation, customs, profits, offices, officers, exemptions, acquittances, unclaimed lands, wastes, easements emoluments, goods, chattels, and hereditaments, and all such things as by the letters patent of King James the First, bearing date the twelfth day of February, in the twentieth year of his reign over England, France, and Ireland, and the fifty-sixth over Scotland, and all other the Kings and Queens of England, our ancestors, to the said mayor and burgesses were given, granted, and confirmed, or by any other aforesaid letters patent granted, or said to be granted or confirmed, to the mayor and burgesses of the said town, or whatever the mayor and burgesses of the said town, or their predecessors, by any name or names of incorporation, before the said eighteenth day of September, in the thirty-fourth year of the said King Charles the Second, possessed, held, used, enjoyed, or occupied, or ought or were able to have, hold, use, or enjoy for themselves, or their successors, by reason or pretence of any or each of the said letters patent, or any other charters, grants, or letters patent whatsoever, by any of our progenitors or predecessors, formerly Kings or Queens of England, in any manner made, granted, or confirmed, before the said eighteenth day of September, in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of the late King Charles the Second, or any other lawful manner, law, or title, use, or prescription, lawfully used, possessed, accustomed, or enjoyed, before the date of the present. And as we are given to understand, that certain persons, inhabitants of the said town and borough of Nottingham, have, after the time of the aforesaid pretended surrender, taken upon themselves to be a body corporate, by the name of mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the town of Nottingham, in the county of the said town, under the pretence or colour of certain letters patent, granted by the late Kings Charles the Second and James the Second, and have given certain discharges, or pretended discharges, to divers persons of divers lands, tenements, and hereditaments, belonging or appertaining to the mayor and burgesses of the town of Nottingham, at the time of the aforesaid pretended surrender, and have obtained and received divers sums of money under pretence of the said discharges. And as we are unwilling that those persons to whom such discharges, or pretended discharges, were made, should in any manner be deprived of their lands, for which they have bona fide given valuable considerations, we of our special grace, certain knowledge, and sole inclination, do grant and confirm, and by these presents for ourselves, our heirs, and successors, do grant and confirm, to all and to every person or persons to whom any such discharge, or pretended discharge, or any discharges, or pretended discharges, have been made of any lands, tenements, or hereditaments aforesaid, that every such person or persons shall henceforth respectfully have, hold, and enjoy; and be empowered to have, hold, and enjoy, all the lands, tenements, and hereditaments, or any of them, for which they so discharged, or in a pretended manner discharged, bona fide, made valuable considerations for the residue of the respective terms or limits in each such discharge,

subjected to the annual rent, conditions, conventions, and agreements, specified in such discharges, and according to true purport of the said discharges, or pretended discharges.

In testimony of which thing, we have caused these letters patent to be made, ourselves being witness, at Westminster, on the nineteenth day of October, in the fourth year of our reign.

PIGOTT.

By writ of privy seal,

T. TREVOR.

W. RAWLINSON.

G. HUTCHINSON.

For fine in hanaper, twenty marks.

#### *TRANSLATION OF A GRANT BY QUEEN ANNE OF TWO NEW FAIRS.*

"Anne by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Queen, defender of the faith, &c. &c." To all to whom these our letters shall come, greeting. Whereas by an inquisition taken at the Guildhall of the town of Nottingham in our county of the town of Nottingham, on the fifth day of May in the eleventh year of our reign, in virtue of our writ of ad quod damnum,\* lately issued from our Chancery to the sheriff of the aforesaid county of the town of Nottingham, ordering the aforesaid inquisition; it is found by the oaths of honest and lawful men of the aforesaid county, that it would not be any damage to us, or others, or any detriment to the neighbouring fairs or markets, if we should grant to the mayor and burgesses of the aforesaid town and their successors, that they may have and hold annually for ever, at the town of Nottingham aforesaid, a fair or market, beginning on the Thursday next before Easter-Sunday, and then and there to be held and continued during the eight next following days, and another fair or market beginning on the Friday next before the first Tuesday after the feast of Epiphany, then and there to be held and continued during the eight next following days, for the buying and selling in these fairs or markets, cattle, sheep, and all and every sort of goods and merchandise whatsoever, that are commonly bought and sold in fairs or markets, and the tolls and duties thence arising to be taken in the manner fully shewn by the writ and inquisition remaining on record on the files of our court of Chancery.

Be it therefore known, that we of our special grace and good will have given and conceded for ourselves, and by these presents for our heirs and our successors, we give and concede to the aforesaid mayor and burgesses and their successors, that they may have and hold annually and for ever, at the aforesaid town of Nottingham, one fair or market, beginning on the Thursday next before Easter Sunday, to be then and there held and continued during the eight next following days, and another fair or market, beginning on the Friday next before the first Tuesday after the feast of Epiphany, then to be held and continued during the eight next following days, for the buying and selling in these fairs or markets, cattle, sheep, and all and every sort of goods and

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\* Ad quod damnum (To what damage) is a writ which ought to be issued before the king grants certain liberties, as fairs, markets, &c. &c. and is directed to the sheriff to enquire whether it would be to the damage or prejudice of any person, if such grant should be made.

merchandise whatsoever, that are commonly bought and sold in fairs or markets, together with a court of pie powders\* during the time of the aforesaid fairs, and also all tolls and other duties belonging or appertaining to the aforesaid fairs or markets; the having, holding, and enjoying the aforesaid fair or market, and court of pie powders, and other things said in our presents to be given or to be conceded to the aforesaid mayor and burgesses of the aforesaid town of Nottingham, and their successors to be for ever, for the sole advantage and use of the aforesaid mayor and burgesses of the aforesaid town of Nottingham and their successors, and this without any fee or acknowledgment paid or given, to us our heirs or successors. We therefore will, and by these our presents firmly enjoining, for ourselves and our successors, we order and command, that the aforesaid mayor and burgesses of the said town of Nottingham and their successors, in virtue of these presents, may freely, lawfully, and quietly have, hold, and keep, and may for ever have power and authority to have, hold, and keep the aforesaid fairs or markets, together with the court of pie powders, and other aforesaid things, according to the tenor and true intent of these our letters patent, without any molestation, disturbance, hindrance, or contradiction, from our heirs or successors, or any sheriffs, escheators, bailiffs, officers, or servants, of our heirs or successors, and this without any other warrant, writ, or process, in future obtained or procured for that purpose. Lastly, we will and by these presents grant, for ourselves our heirs and successors, to the aforesaid mayor and burgesses of the said town, and their successors, that these our letters patent, or enrolment of the same, may and shall be good, firm, binding, sufficient and effectual in law to the aforesaid mayor and burgesses of the said town of Nottingham and their successors, according to the true intent of the same.

In witness of which, we have caused these our letters patent to be made, ourself being witness at Westminster, thirteenth day of August, in the eleventh year of our reign.

By writ of privy seal,

COCKS.

#### EXTRACT FROM THE

### *FOUNDATION DEED of the PRIORY at LENTON,*

*Being that part which relates to the possessions of the Peverels in the town of Nottingham, and noticed page 82.*

Be it known to all the faithful clergy and laity of the holy church of God, as well French as English, who now are or hereafter may be, that I William Peverel for the love of divine worship, and the common remedy of the souls of my Lords King William and his Queen Matilda and their son King William, and all their parents and mine; also for the salvation of my present Lord King Henry and Matilda his wife, and their son William and their daughter Matilda, &c. &c. &c.

Item.—I give to the monastery which I have founded at Lenton, the tenth part of my hunting as well skins as flesh, and the whole tenth of my fishery of Nottingham. Item.—With the

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\* Pie Powder Court (Dusty Foot Court) is a court held in fairs to do justice to buyers and sellers, and for redress of disorders committed in them.—So called because they are most usual in summer when the suitors to the court have dusty feet; and from the expedition in hearing causes proper thereto, before the dust goes off the feet of the plaintiff and defendant.

permission of my Lord King Henry, I give to them the church of St. Mary in the English borough of the town of Nottingham, with the lands and tenths, and all other things belonging to it, also the church of St. Peter, with all belonging to it, also the church of St. Nicholas, with all belonging to it, &c. &c.\*

## A MUSTER ROLL OF THE FOOT COMPANY

UNDER THE COMMAND OF CAPTAIN THOMAS POULTON, GOVERNOR OF NOTTINGHAM CASTLE.

Thomas Poulton, Captain.—John Gillot, Lieutenant.—Richard Mortlocke, Ensign.

Thomas Lume, }  
John Allen, } Serjeants.  
Henry Grundy, }  
George Franks, } Corporals.  
Robert Barker, }

John Cooper, }  
John Ellis, } Drummers.  
Thomas Holt, Gentleman of Arms.  
Lawrence Colliu, Gunner.  
John Pearson, Mattross.

John Rouse,  
William Vincent,  
John Barrow,  
George Fox,  
Robert Breerley,  
Henry Wright,  
William Wilkinson,  
John Noone,  
Francis Walker,  
George Coates,  
Anthony Hutchinson,  
Henry Gamble,  
James Starre,  
Robert Wright,  
William Wright,  
Richard Coursby,  
Richard Birche,  
Samuel Belcher,  
Francis Rayner,  
William Smalley,  
John Aston,  
Thomas Raynor,  
William Claybrooke,  
William Chamberlaine,  
John Hill,

John Bradwell,  
John Trueman,  
Robert Clarke,  
Thomas Batty  
Rice Jones,  
John Howes,  
Phillip Knight,  
Richard Hollis,  
William Hall,  
Thomas Dallowater,  
Henry Viccars,  
Gervas Johnson,  
Abraham Hextall,  
John Brentnall,  
Thomas Syseton,  
Robert Crosse,  
Edward Ashe,  
John Lundy,  
Samuel Rose,  
Richard Toll,  
John Hilton,  
John Preston,  
Robert Townroe,  
Thomas Campain,  
Gervas Waller,

Christopher Baresey,  
John Wilson,  
Robert Barlow,  
Francis Smite,  
Thomas Hyfield,  
John Naylor,  
John Close,  
Richard Norte,  
Robert Lindley,  
Matthew Bugge,  
John Dickenson,  
Gervas Hallome,  
Robert Burnett,  
James Holbrooke,  
George Woollett,  
Robert Chantrey,  
Richard Mortley,  
Jonathan Newham,  
George Faurett,  
John Winter,  
John Newham,  
Nathaniel Chamberlain,  
William Nyles,  
George Stoute,  
George Kirke,

Richard Bailey,  
John Hiteersey,  
John Baynett,  
James Robinson,  
John Standley,  
Theophilus Newam,  
Thomas Harrie,  
Jonathan Saunders,  
William Porter,  
Richard Fouljam,  
John Calton,  
William Gent,  
Nicholas Colton,  
Robert Clarke,  
William Walldon,  
Edward Harlowe,  
George Powell,  
Valentine Salt,  
John Hutchinson,  
Thomas Patchet,  
John Jackson,  
Thomas Morley,  
Thomas Wright,  
George Bush,  
Matthew Livesley.

JANUARY 27, 1648.—Mustered then in Captain Poulton's company, governor of Nottingham castle, the captain, lieutenant, ensign, two serjeants, three corporals, a gentleman of arms, two drummers, one gunner, one mattross, and one hundred private soldiers.

JONA EVERARD.

\* The date of this charter is not given by Dugdale, but as the grant was witnessed by Gerard Archbishop of York, who had been chancellor to William the Conqueror, and was translated from Hereford to York in 1100, and died in 1108, it of course follows that the deed must have been executed in or between those years.

## THE PHILADELPHIANS, OR FAMILY OF LOVE.

The meetings of this sect were, for near a century, held at a house on the north-side of Brewhouse-yard, and are noticed by Dr. Thoroton, in a manner, not the most respectable,\* (see page 51). Deering mentions such a society having existed, but being *entirely dispersed* at the time of his writing. He, however, gives an account of their origin and tenets; which not having met with elsewhere, I shall here transcribe, believing that the reader will not be displeased in having an opportunity of comparing the doctrines promulgated by these people, with those so lately received by the deluded followers of Joanna Southcott.

Deering informs us, that "they obtained the above mentioned name (Philadelphians), as also the English name of *Family of Love*, from the love they professed to bear to all men, though never so wicked, and their obedience to all magistrates, though never so tyrannical, be they Jews, Gentiles, or Turks.

"Their founder was one David George, of Delph, in Holland, an Anabaptist, a man of graceful aspect, affable, though grave, wearing a long yellowish beard, of a becoming modest and discreet deportment, who after he had continued in his own country forty years, thought himself not safe any longer there, and sought a settlement at Basil, in Switzerland, for himself, his family, and some companions, 1544, the which, on pretence of being driven out of his country for the sake of the gospel, by his moving eloquence, he obtained from the magistrates, who made him a brother citizen. There he purchased divers houses, where he, and those belonging to him, lived in common; he bought besides, a farm, in the country. His diligent study of religion, his frequent exercise of devotion, munificence, alms, and all kinds of good offices, (for which his riches enabled him,) procured him an universal good character, and gained him many friends and adherents. During this time, by his letters, writings, and emissaries, he planted and propagated his new doctrine, not at home, but through the Low Countries, where it occasioned great tumults. However, himself died in August 1556, and was at first honorably interred, but to the great surprise of his people, to whom he had declared himself immortal, or at least, that he should rise again in three days, neither of which proving true, made many of his sectaries at Basil disown his doctrine; but after a strict inquiry into his tenets, his doctrine was declared impious, and himself unworthy of christian burial, with a sentence, *that his body and books should be burnt by the common hangman, in a public place*, and accordingly his carcase was taken up three years after his death, and with his printed and manuscript writings, committed to the flames.

"This man was succeeded by one Henry Nicholas, of Amsterdam, a disciple of the said David George, who called himself the father of the Family of Love, the restorer of the world, the prophet sent of God, he wrote several tracts, in one of which he mentions that the minute of the last trumpet was coming that should unfold all the books of unquiet consciences, hell and eternal judgment which should be found to be only things grounded upon meer lies, and as all wickedness and high misdeeds were hateful and detestable to God, so also were glorious and plausible lies no less odious to him."

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\* Thoroton says, "The Brewhouse-yard is a constabulary, wherein there are many houses, some in the rock, others out of it, all which being now of no parish, are a great receptacle for fanatics, and other like people, who would not live conformable to the laws."

**FRAME-BREAKING.**

The system adopted by the Luddites, having been persevered in, with more or less violence, during the whole time this work has been in the press, the author feels it his duty, to give to the public, abstracts of the three following acts of parliament. The first was passed in the 28th year of his present Majesty, for the protection of *stocking-frames, machinery in mills, &c.* The second, already alluded to (page 403.) The third for the protection of stocking and lace frames, &c. passed in 1813, and is the one now acted upon by the courts.

**ACT FOR PROTECTING STOCKING-FRAMES, MACHINERY, &c.**

Abstract of "An act for the better and more effectual protection of stocking-frames, and the machines or engines annexed thereto, or used therewith; and for the punishment of persons destroying or injuring of such stocking-frames, machines or engines, and the framework-knitted pieces, stockings, and other articles and goods used and made in the hosiery or framework-knitted manufactory; or breaking or destroying any machinery contained in any mill or mills used, or any way employed in preparing or spinning of wool or cotton for the use of the stocking-frame."—*Anno 28 Geo. III.*

"Whereas the frames for making of framework-knitted pieces, stockings, and other articles and goods in the hosiery or framework-knitted manufactory, are very valuable and expensive machines, and generally the property of the hosier or manufacturer, who lets the same to hire to his workmen or framework-knitters; and it hath frequently happened that the hosier or manufacturer, being the owner or employer of such frame or frames, and having so put and let the same out to hire, and wanting, for the accommodation of his trade and business, to take and remove such frame or frames from the use and possession of one workman into the hands and custody of another, and having for such purpose given the customary and usual notice to the workman in whose hands or custody such frame was, so to deliver up the same, such workman hath wilfully detained and withheld the same, and sometimes absolutely and unlawfully sold and disposed thereof, to the great grievance, inconvenience, and loss of such hosier or manufacturer: And whereas it hath frequently happened, when discontents have arisen amongst the framework-knitters, that they and other disorderly persons have assembled in a riotous and tumultuous manner, and have destroyed or materially damaged great numbers of stocking-frames, and the machines or engines thereto annexed or used therewith, and committed great violences and outrages upon many of his majesty's good subjects: wherefore it is necessary that more effectual provision should be made against such unlawful practices, and for preventing such violences and outrages for the future, and for bringing all offenders in the premises to more speedy and exemplary justice: May it therefore please your majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the king's most excellent majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that if any framework-knitter or framework-knitters, who shall or may rent or take by the hire, any stocking-frame or frames, either with or without any machine or engine thereto annexed, or therewith to be employed, of and from any person or persons

whomsoever, shall at any time, from and after the passing of this act, refuse to yield up and re-deliver such frame or frames, with the machine or engine therewith let (if any such there shall be) to the person or persons of whom he or they shall or may so rent the same, having received from such person or persons fourteen days previous notice for such purpose) then, and in every such case, the person so offending, being thereof lawfully convicted by the oath or (if the owner or employer thereof be of the people called *Quakers*) solemn affirmation of the owner or employer of such frame or frames, or by the oath or affirmation of any other credible witness or witnesses, before any one or more justice or justices of the peace of the county, riding, division, city, liberty, town, or place, where such offence shall be committed, or where the person or persons so charged shall reside or inhabit (which oath or affirmation the said justice or justices is and are hereby impowered and required to administer,) the person or persons so offending shall, for every such offence, forfeit the sum of twenty shillings to and for the use of the poor of the parish where such offence shall be committed; and in case the said forfeiture shall not be immediately paid, and the said frame or frames, with the machine or engine therewith let (if any such there shall be) delivered up to the owner or owners thereof, within six days next after such conviction, the justice or justices before whom such conviction shall be had, shall commit the party or parties so convicted to the common gaol or other public prison of such county, riding, division, city, liberty, town, or place, there to remain without bail or mainprize, and be kept to hard labour, for any time not exceeding three calendar months, nor less than one calendar month.

II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person so renting or taking to hire any stocking frame, with or without any such machine or engine as aforesaid, shall at any time, from and after the passing of this act, sell or otherwise unlawfully dispose of any such stocking frame, or the machine or engine therewith let, (if any such there shall be) without the consent of the owner or owners thereof, every such offender, being thereof lawfully convicted upon any indictment to be found against him, shall suffer solitary imprisonment in the common gaol or house of correction of the county, riding, division, city, liberty, town, or place, wherein such offence shall have been committed, without bail or mainprize, for a space not less than three calendar months, nor exceeding twelve calendar months.

III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall wilfully and knowingly receive or purchase any such stocking frame, machine, or engine, so sold or unlawfully disposed of as aforesaid, contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, and shall thereof be lawfully convicted on any indictment to be found against him or them, every such offender or offenders shall be subject to such and the like punishment as by this act is inflicted or provided to be inflicted, on such person so selling or unlawfully disposing of any such stocking frame, machine, or engine as aforesaid.

IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall by day or by night, enter by force into any house, shop, or place, with an intent to cut or destroy any framework-knitted pieces, stockings, or other articles, or goods being in the frame, or upon any machine, or engine thereto annexed, or therewith to be used, or prepared for that purpose: or shall wilfully and maliciously cut or destroy any framework-knitted pieces, stockings, or other

articles or goods being in the frame, or upon the machine, or engine as aforesaid, or prepared for that purpose ; or shall wilfully and maliciously break, destroy, or damage any frame, machine, engine, tool, instrument, or utensil, used in and for the working and making of any such framework-knitted pieces, stockings, or other articles or goods in the hosiery or framework-knitted manufactory, not having the consent of the owner so to do, or break or destroy any machinery contained in any mill or mills used, or any way employed in preparing or spinning of wool or cotton for the use of the stocking frames, every offender, being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and shall be transported to some of his majesty's dominions beyond seas, for any space or term of years not exceeding fourteen years, nor less than seven years."

*ABSTRACT OF AN ACT FOR PROTECTING STOCKING AND LACE FRAMES, &c.*

Passed in the fifty-second year of the reign of his majesty George the Third, entitled " An act for the more exemplary punishment of persons destroying or injuring any stocking or lace frames, or other machines or engines used in the framework-knitted manufactory, or any articles or goods in such frames, or machines."

" Whereas the provisions of an act of the twenty-eighth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, " An act for the better and more effectual protection of stocking frames, and the machines or engines annexed thereto or used therewith, and for the punishment of persons destroying or injuring of such stocking frames, machines, or engines, and the framework-knitted pieces, stockings, and other articles and goods used and made in the hosiery or framework-knitted manufactory, or breaking or destroying any machinery contained in any mill or mills used, or any way employed in preparing or spinning of wool or cotton for the use of the stocking frame," have been found ineffectual for the preventing framework-knitters, and other disorderly and evil-disposed persons, destroying or damaging frames and machines, or engines thereto annexed or used therewith in the making of stocking or lace-work, and it is therefore necessary that more effectual provisions should be made against such unlawful practices, and preventing such outrages, and bringing offenders therein to exemplary justice.

Clause I. That if any person or persons shall, by day or by night, enter by force into any house, shop, or place, with an intent to cut or destroy any framework-knitted pieces, stockings, or lace, or other articles or goods being in the frame, or upon any machine or engine thereto annexed, or therewith to be used or prepared for that purpose ; or with an intent to break, destroy, or damage any frame, machine, engine, tool, instrument, or utensil, used in and for the working and making of any such framework-knitted pieces, stockings, lace, or other articles or goods in the hosiery or framework-knitted manufactory, he, she, or they, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor : And if any person or persons shall wilfully and maliciously, and without having the consent or authority of the owner, cut or destroy any framework-knitted pieces, stockings, lace, or other articles or goods, being in the frame, or upon any machine or engine as aforesaid, or prepared for that purpose ; or shall wilfully and maliciously, and without having the consent or authority of the owner, break, destroy, or damage any frame, machine, engine, tool, instrument, or utensil, used in and for the working and making of any such framework-knitted pieces, stockings, lace, or other articles or



goods in the hosiery or framework-knitted stocking or framework lace manufactory; or shall wilfully and maliciously, and without having the consent or authority of the owner, break, or destroy any machinery contained in any mill or mills, used or any way employed in preparing or spinning of wool or cotton, or other materials for the use of the stocking or lace manufactory, every offender being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be adjudged to suffer the penalty of death.

II. That every person, in whose house, or custody, or possession, any such frame, machine, or engine as aforesaid, (not being his or her property) shall be at the time of the destruction or damaging thereof, or of any stocking or lace-work in or on the same, and who shall not, within twenty-four hours after he or she shall have known of such destruction or damage being committed as aforesaid, give notice thereof to the owner of such frame, machine, or engine, if residing within twelve miles, or if such owner shall not reside within such distance, then to some known agent of such owner; and also within eighteen hours go before some justice of the peace or magistrate residing near the place where such destruction or damage shall have taken place as aforesaid, to be examined upon oath as to every matter or thing relating to the committing of such destruction and damage, and his knowledge thereof, and of all particulars relating thereto, which may lead to the discovery of the offender therein, every such person shall, (unless such individual shall assign reasonable cause for not having given the information required,) for every such neglect, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and every such offender being thereof lawfully convicted upon any indictment or information, may be punished as in cases of misdemeanor, by fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court in which he shall be convicted; and every justice of the peace or magistrate before whom any such person shall so go, shall examine such person upon oath, (which oath every such justice of the peace or magistrate is hereby authorised to administer) as to his knowledge of such damage or destruction, and of the persons committing the same, or of any particulars which may lead to the detection of the offenders therein; and shall also allow the owner of the frame, machine, or engine, or agent if present, to put any question upon oath to such person for the discovery of the offender; and if such owner or agent shall not have had sufficient notice to be present when such person came before the justice or magistrate for examination as aforesaid, such justice of the peace or magistrate shall, if required by the owner or agent aforesaid, again call such person before him for examination by the owner or agent aforesaid.

III. That if any person examined by or before any justice of the peace or magistrate under this act as aforesaid, shall commit wilful perjury, or if any person shall suborn or procure any person to commit perjury in any such examination, every such person shall incur and suffer the like pains and penalties as are by law inflicted upon persons committing perjury and subornation or perjury.

IV. That this act shall remain and continue in force until the first of March, 1814, and no longer.

V. That this act may be altered, amended, or repealed, by any act or acts passed in this session of parliament."

*ABSTRACT OF AN ACT FOR PROTECTING STOCKING AND LACE FRAMES, &c.*

*Anno. 54, Geo. III. chap. 42, "An act to repeal an act of the fifty-second year of his present majesty, for the punishment of persons destroying stocking or lace frames, or any articles in such frames, and to make other provision instead thereof.—20th December, 1813."*

Whereas an act was passed in the fifty-second year of his present majesty's reign, entitled "*An act for the more exemplary punishment of persons destroying or injuring any stocking or lace frames, or other machines, or engines, used in the framework-knitted manufactory, or any articles or goods in such frames, or machines; to continue in force until the first day of March, one thousand, eight hundred and fourteen.*" And whereas it is expedient, that the said act should be repealed and other provision made instead thereof,\* be it therefore enacted, That from and after the passing of this act, the said recited act shall be repealed, and the same is hereby repealed, save and except as to any thing done before the passing of this act, with respect to which the said act shall remain and be in full force and effect, as if this act had not been made.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this act, if any person or persons, shall by day or by night, enter by force into any house, shop, or place, with an intent to cut or destroy any framework-knitted pieces, stockings, or lace, or other articles, or goods, being in the frame, or upon any machine, or engine thereto annexed, or therewith to be used, or prepared for that purpose, or with an intent to break, or destroy any frame, machine, engine, tool, instrument, or utensil, used in and for the working and making of any such framework-knitted pieces, stockings, lace, or other articles, or goods in the hosiery, or framework-knitted manufactory, or shall wilfully, or maliciously, and without having the consent, or authority of the owner, destroy, or cut, with an intent to destroy or render useless any framework-knitted pieces, stockings, lace, or other articles, or goods being in the frame, or upon any machine, or engine as aforesaid, or prepared for that purpose, or shall wilfully and maliciously, and without having the consent, or authority of the owner, break, destroy, or damage, with an intent to destroy, or render useless, any frame, machine, engine, tool, instrument, or utensil, used in and for the working and making of any such framework-knitted pieces, stockings, lace, or other articles, or goods in the hosiery, or framework-knitted stocking, or framework lace manufactory; or shall wilfully and maliciously and without having the consent and authority of the owner, break, or destroy any machinery contained in any mill, or mills used, or any way employed in preparing, or spinning of wool, or cotton, or other materials for the use of the stocking, or lace manufactory; every offender being thereof lawfully convicted, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and shall be transported for life, or for such term of years not less than seven years, as the judge before whom such offender shall be tried, in his discretion shall adjudge and direct.

III. And be it further enacted, That this act may be altered, amended, or repealed by any act or acts to be passed in this session of parliament."

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\* Here our legislators shew their great wisdom, they pass an act in 1812, and find a necessity of repealing it in 1813.

## **THE PETITION TO OLIVER CROMWELL,**

**Of the Framework-knitters,**

(NOTICED PAGE 216.)

TO HIS HIGHNESS THE LORD PROTECTOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND IRELAND, &c.

The humble representation of the promoters and inventors of the art and mystery or trade of *framework-knitting*, or making of *silk stockings*, or other work in a frame or engine ; petitioners to your highness, that they may be united and incorporated by charter under the great seal of England, whereby their just right to the invention may be preserved from foreigners, the trade advanced, abuses therein suppressed, the benefit of the commonwealth by importation and exportation, and otherwise increased, and hundreds of poor families comfortably relieved by their several employments about the same, who will otherwise be exposed to ruin, having no other calling to live of.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

“ Among all the civil ways of improvement of a commonwealth (next to agriculture) merchandise and manufactory (where and whensoever orderly regulated) in all ages and times, have been, and are most securely beneficial and prosperous during their cherishment and retention : But they are apt to become volant, as soon as flighted, or disordered, in neighbouring\* places and regions, always hospitable to so welcome guests as bring with them not only their own entertainment, but also profitable advantages to their protectors. Leaving behind them unto the place of their former residence an over-late and remediless repentance of such improvidence, and most commonly an irrevocable consumption ; the experience whereof has anciently and generally made it a principal maxim in state, to encourage by all favorable means requisite, the erectors and practisers of trading ; and has notified for one of the greatest errors in state government, the discountenancing and disordering thereof.

Whence in succession of time (from antiquity of all records) the great variety and multitude of incorporations, overspreading the face of all eminent parts of the civilly governed world, flourishing under the favor and protection of the several princes and estates thereof, each province striving to exceed its neighbours in numerosity of them, and enlargement of all convenient privileges, and powers grantable unto them, and reaping innumerable benefits at the cheap rate of countenance, encouragement, and protection of the industrious labours of the natives ; who in retribution unto the state for licence and privilege to earn their own subsistancies, do disburden the commonwealth (by employment or maintenance) of many poor, keep themselves in closer order and less circumference than others, in ready ability for public service, pay all public charges and impositions ; draw commerce into their country with profit unto the state by importation and exportation, and furnish their own and all others necessities with useful commodities. So (and many ways much more) profitable is encouraged and well governed industry, which if discouraged, and denied order in the practice, prosecution and exercise thereof ; it sometimes has (and ever will) most certainly

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\* Many places have had their vicissitudes of prosperity and decay, occasioned by access or receding of trade, as witnesses (among many other) Gaunt in Flanders, and those towns from whence the English staple has removed.

become a disadvantage, weakening, and impoverishment to the commonwealth, and an advancement, strength, and enrichment of the neighbours who are, or may prove enemies.

In prevention whereof, all nations who live not in absolute slavery to their sovereigns, but enjoy a propriety in their estates and goods, by claiming also a right of propriety in the fruits of their own endeavours (which was never yet denied but to the great prejudice of the contradictors) have provided and do allow, that as they severally and successively arrive to any assured profit, they are included within their own territories and appropriated unto the particular deservers, with grants in perpetuity of the regulation of affairs in trade, meerly as matter of power, or the immediate ministers thereof, unless for justice against infringers and invaders of such establishments as have been to that purpose obtained. And it has been (and remaineth) a great part of the felicity of England, that by the grave advice and appropriation of the state, it abounds with indulgent presidents and provisions of this kind, to the great encouragement and comfort both of present and future industries.

Whereby the petitioners are emboldened (now at length) to offer to your Highness's consideration and grave judgement, the fulness of capacity they humbly conceive themselves to have been in, to receive the like grant of favor, trust, and protection, which many other companies have (upon fewer and less weighty inducements) obtained; and whereof there is apparent necessity, their trade being no longer manageable by them, nor securable unto the profit of this commonwealth, without it.

Which trade is properly stiled framework-knitting, because it is direct and absolute knitwork in the stitches thereof, nothing different therein from the common way of knitting (not much more anciently for public use practised in this nation than this) but only in the numbers of needles, at an instant working in this, more than in the other by an hundred for one, set in an engine or frame composed of above 2000 pieces of smith, joiners' and turners' work, after so artificial and exact a manner, that by the judgement of all beholders, it far excels in the ingenuity, curiosity, and subtilty of the invention and contexture, all other frames or instruments of manufacture in use in any known part of the world. And for the skill requisite to the use and manage thereof, it well deserves (without usurpation as some others impertinently have) the titles of mystery and art, by reason of the great difficulty of learning, and length of time necessary, to attain a dextrous habit of right, true and exquisite workmanship therein, which has preserved it hitherto (from the hands of foreigners) peculiar to the English nation, from whence it has extraction, growth, and breeding unto that perfection it is now arrived at. Not only able to serve your Highness's dominions with the commodities it mercantably works, but also the neighbouring countries round about, where it has gained so good repute, that the vent thereof is now more foreign than domestic, and has drawn covetous eyes upon it, to undermine it here and to transport it beyond the seas. Of whose sinister workings to that pernicious end, these petitioners (as most interested) standing in the nearest sent, think themselves in the common duty of well-affected persons to your Highness and their country, (besides their own case of necessity) bound to make address unto the wisdom, protection and care of your Highness (as their predecessors in former times have done to the rulers of this nation) speedily to restrain and suppress all attempts, to bring so great a detriment and inconveniency upon the commonwealth.

*NOW SO IT IS, AND MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,*

That the trade of framework-knitting was never known or practised either here in England, or in any other place in the world, before it was (above fifty years past) invented and found out by one William Lea, of Calverton, in the county of Nottingham, gent. who by himself and such of his kindred and countrymen as he took unto him for servants, practised the same many years, somewhat imperfectly in comparison of the exactness it is sithence brought unto, by the endeavours of some of these petitioners. Yet even in the infancy thereof, it gathered sufficient estimation of a business of so extraordinary a national profit and advantage, as to be invited over into France, upon allurements of great rewards, privilege and honor; not long before the sudden murder of the late French King Henry the Fourth, unsuccessfully accepted by the said Mr. Lea, (at that time wanting due encouragement at home.) And transporting himself with nine workmen his servants (with some frames) unto Roan; there wrought to so great applause of the French, that the trade was in all likelihood to have been settled in that country for ever, had not the decease of the said king disappointed Mr. Lea of his expected grant of privilege, and the succeeding troubles of that kingdom, delayed his renewed suit to that purpose, into discontentment and death at Paris leaving his workmen at Roan to provide for themselves, seven of which returned back again into England with their frames, and here practised and improved their trade; under whom, (or the master workmen since risen under them) most of these petitioners had their breeding and served their apprenticeships. Of the other two which remained in France only one is yet surviving: but so far short of the perfection of his trade (as it is used here) that of him, or what can be done by him, or his means, these petitioners are in no apprehension of fear, nor have not been (since then) endangered in foreign countries by any that have served out their full time of apprenticeship here.

But near about that time a Venetian ambassador gave 500*l.* for a remnant of time of one Henry Mead, then an apprentice to this trade, and conveyed him with his frame from London to Venice, where although his work and the manner of it was for a while admired, and endeavoured to be imitated; yet as soon as necessity of reparation of his frame and instruments happened, for want of artificers experienced in such work there, and of ability in him to direct them, the work prospered not in his managing; so that (his bought time of service being expired) affection to his native country brought him home again into England. After his departure the Venetians grew disheartened, and impatient of making vain trials, they sent his disordered frame and some of their own imitation to be sold in London at a very low valuation.

And within a few years afterwards the trade was greatly endangered by one Abraham Jones, who having by underhand courses and insinuations (and not by servitude as an apprentice,) gotten both the mystery and skillful practice thereof, did (contrary to the articles with the rest of the company that had taken some jealous notice of him) pass himself with some more unto Amsterdam, and there taking some Dutch unto him as servants, erected frames, and wrought for the space of two or three years, until the infection of the plague seized on him and his whole family and carried them all to the grave. His frames also (as things unprofitable to them that could not find out their right use without an able teacher) were sent to London for sale at slight rates.

These preservations and escapes of this trade from transplantation into foreign countries, these

petitioners do with thankfulness acknowledge, and ascribe to have been brought by the divine providence, limiting his bounties and administration whither he has been pleased to direct them. For it may well seem marvellous in human judgement, how otherwise this trade should remain (notwithstanding all the covetous and envious attempts to the contrary practised for the space of forty years past,) an art peculiar to only this our nation : And to the nimble spirits of the French, the fertile wits of the Italian, and the industrious inclination of the Dutch, a concealed mystery unto this day.

Yet a continued negligence in presumption thereupon, would ill beseem the receivers of so many damageless warnings, and may soon prove of hard consequence unto these petitioners who without intermission are environed with the like or greater dangers. For there are by other means than the way of apprenticeship, so many intruders crept into this trade, that ill work and ill ware is every where offered to sale ; and the ignominy and disparagement thereof, commonly imputed to the whole manufactory, not without much loss, hinderance, and interruption of the true and allowable artisans, and tending to their utter impoverishment who in continual workmanship produce the best, finest, and most approvedly merchantable and useful wares ever sold and bought in the memory of men, otherwise the petitioners could not have driven their trade through many oppositions and difficulties, up unto the height it is now brought, and into fair expectation and open way of large increase, if intrusion were barred, and transportation and teaching of the mystery unto foreigners restrained, and none of this our nation, either artisan, apprentice, or intruder, be permitted so mischievously to seek for gain.

As one here in London makes his profession and custom to do ; exposing himself a teacher of this art and trade for any inconsiderable parcel of money, unto all manner of people without distinction, whether native or not, hitherto uncontrollably ; nor to inveigle and corrupt apprentices from their masters, to discover and teach unto them the whole trade ; (and having gotten it) pretend upon scruple of conscience in matters of religion, or some other occasion, to depart your Highness's dominions, and set it up in practice in a foreign country ; as one not long since has done, whom these petitioners are labouring all they may to reduce, and are not hopeless to find prevalent means to recover him back again time enough, if they receive encouragement in this their humble suit. Wherein they farther shew :

That although this manufacture may be wrought in any other materials that are usually made up (or can possibly be made up) into the form of knit-work : Yet has it chosen to be practised in silk, the best and richest of all others in use and wearing, and most crediting the artisans, and of greatest advantage unto this state and commonwealth, yielding several payments to the use of the state before it passes out of the hands of the traders therein, and increasing merchandise by both the ways of importation and exportation of the self-same material, imported raw at cheap rates, exported ready wrought at the utmost extent of value ; so that the distance of those valuations is totally clear gain to this commonwealth, and esteemed upwards of six parts in seven of the whole quantity of this material in the highest value thereof, wrought up by this manufacture ; which has indicated that old proverbial aspersion :—*The stranger buys of the Englishman the case of the fox for a groat, and sells him the tail again for a shilling.* And may now invert and retort

upon them :—*The Englishman buys silk of the stranger for twenty marks, and sells him the same again for one hundred pounds.*

That this trade encourages and sets on work other artificers also ; as smiths, joiners and turners, for the making, erecting, and repairing of frames, and other necessary instruments thereunto belonging, and has bred up many excellent workmen among them for farther public service.

That the artisans of this trade, do moreover employ a multitude of hands besides their own about the preparation and finishing of the materials and ware they work : On which do compleatly subsist and thrive : The winders, throwers, sizers, seamers and trimmers thereof : And also the needle-makers totally depend thereon.

That although these petitioners seem in the eyes of the world, to be at present under a cloud and every moment ready to be undone by intruders and foreigners, so that many people fear and forbear to bind their children apprentices unto a trade of such instant hazard and irregularity, until a settlement thereof, under a corporation, to the great retarding an increase of able artisans, who are therefore but few in number, in comparison of the knitters the way common to other nations ; yet do they subsist by the labours in a more substantial and serviceable degree to the commonwealth, disburdening it of many poor of both sexes. Whereas that common tedious way multiplies needy persons here, rather because the people of other nations, outwork those of this herein, than by any hinderance they receive from the best artisans of the manufactory that bend their endeavours all they can to the foreign vent in general, as well as, in their own particulars most profitable to this nation, leaving the home sale in great part to the common knitters, uninterrupted, unless by the intruders into this art, whose multiplications (if not restrained) will be equally as pernicious and destructive unto them as unto the petitioners ; who only (and not the common knitters) have shewed unto this commonwealth, that it is able abundantly to serve itself and *ultra* with all commodities of knit-work, as stockings, calceoons, waistcoats, and many other things, without the help, or rather inconveniency it formerly had of importation of the same in quantities ready wrought from foreign parts.

That this trade is in no kind impertinent or damageable to the commonwealth, nor driven in trifling, base and unnecessary stuff or ware, seeing all the world (where habits are worn) is in general and permanent use thereof : but to the contrary, it works on the principal of stuffs, and makes commodious and decent ware for the cover of the whole body of men, perpetually unchangeable in the fashion, endeavouring (as much as in the artisan lies) to found an unexhaustible mine within this nation already prepared to become, (if it shall please your Highness to establish it) henceforth the place of sole resort, as to a special mart, of the rich and staple commodities wrought by this manufacture, for the general service of all the great, honorable and better sorts of inhabitants of the whole communicable world.

That the petitioners have made a large and competent probation of the worth of this manufacture in itself, and merit thereof to the commonwealth, (for the proportion of its growth) far exceeding any other that trades with foreigners in their own materials, extracting from them (to the use of this commonwealth, and the maintenance of the people of this land, at foreign charge) upwards of fourscore in every hundred *de claro* of the whole value now, or that may be hereafter, upon a



regular way of trading, dealt in, and defraying out of the other parcel of the hundred, being less than twenty current, all customs, imposts, and freights, both homeward and outwards, and also reserving the remainder of the twenty, to the manage of the merchant for as much unwrought material. Which eighty, in quick passages and returns of home trade, (by the way twice accounted for unto the officers of excise) suddenly and insensibly diffuses and disperses itself through very many hands, either totally maintaining, or otherwise adding to the subsistences of many other severally (in part) before enumerated trades and professions; besides this manufacture, the prime wheel, gathering only thereby an ordinary ability, to make the rest move: viz. merchants, owners of ships, hosiers, dyers, winders, throwsters, sizers, seamers, trimmers, wire-drawers, needle-makers, smiths, joiners, turners, with many other assistants, all having their sufficient contents and enablements to live out of the clear product of the foreign vent, raised and furnished by the labours of the petitioners and their servants; who have voluntarily among themselves kept order in their trading, according to the duty of probationers (hitherto) without making any request unto the state for particular countenance and protection, until they found themselves now risen into a number not incapable of incorporation; and their trade into foreign parts of so great and growing increase (were the momentary dangers of utter ruin, for want of regulating power diverted) that it may well be esteemed the most improveable way of benefit and advantage of this kind, apparent to this present age, and (within some late hundreds of years past) offered unto this nation, and presented unto the state, (as this now is unto your Highness) for an inclosure within the boundary of its native soil, where it may receive its proper husbandry.

That if these petitioners had no other inducement to offer, but what every other trade which is (common also to foreigners) in fear to be over-wrought and outsold by them, has heretofore presented, as motives, and means to obtain charters and privileges, and consequent provisions by statute, upon reasons drawn from conveniencies accruing by civil education of some youth of the land, employment of idle persons, serving this commonwealth with commodities better wrought here, than those transported hither from beyond the seas, and maintaining many of our people at home with the same money which foreigners did get away from hence for the maintenance of theirs: yet might the petitioners (in confidence of the right of subjects) sue for power subordinately (according to the laws and constitutions of this land) to regulate their own endeavours in a company and fraternity among themselves. But these petitioners stand not in the same sole capacity, that the pinmakers, and others did, at the time of their incorporations. For these have (additionally thereunto) an higher merit towards the commonwealth, whose interest in all the fore-mentioned extraordinary advantages and benefits, and in the further uses of them is annexed unto the prosperity of this manufacture, and wholly depending thereon. Insomuch that the petitioners (in their humble suit) do plead unto your Highness, a general cause of the commonwealth in gross, for an inestimable concernment to all posterity, and crave in their own to be but barely to be preserved, as their lawful endeavours have qualified them, the temporary instruments and servitours to that public use. Which they may reasonably hope, shall not now (first of all sorts of men, ever petitioning semblable favor) begin to be refused unto them, who have not been wanting to the commonwealth in the main service thereof, during its late extremities



of danger, but have all been faithful to their country in every thing according to their utmost abilities, and have many of them undergone much loss of worldly goods, and of peril of life, by and against the common enemy, and some of them continue in military office to this day.

And seeing the mistress of knowledge, experience, has taught that the sole proprietary of a generally desired commodity, has a master key to command the lock of trading ; which whosoever can prudently manage, has no small mastery over the wealth of the universe ; and seeing that this art of framework-knitting here in England (as printing formerly in Germany out-wrought all the manual writers in the world) is likewise able to outwork all the common knitters among all nations, and make the commodity (without divulging of the mystery) generally desirable and entertained (as that other was here) with grace and privilege of importation (by provision of statute, 1st of Richard the Third, cap. 9,) and seeing this is much more capable of secreting, than that, by reason of the great difficulty to attain this with long practice, and the facility of the other to be conceived at first sight. This arising in an entire dominion, and that other in a region full of divided principalities. This is endued with a quality retentive, to continue for many ages, if not ever, (although the other could not so in Germany) a peculiar in propriety unto this nation of England. Therefore it is fit to be owned as a native (by the hand of your Highness) established in the rank, and as the nonpareil of handicrafts, to be taken into your possession inclusively within your power of command and special protection, who is herein not slightly concerned, because intrusted to husband the Common-wealth, and is the balance of reason to distinguish between the allegations and aims of good and bad patriots. Some striving to scatter abroad (about all the earth) that harvest, whereof others desire the storing in a magazine ; and some urging the same exploded clamours against the use of engines in trading, which the file and hammer workers of a single pin did heretofore, to divert or retard the privileging the company of pin-makers, in opposition to those that now sue and refer themselves to be considered according to discretion at home, for what they might write their own conditions every where abroad ; if piety to their native country, as strongly restrained not them, as they implore the coercive power of your Highness to restrain their ill-willers from unravelling the entrails of the Common-wealth, and giving or yielding opportunity unto strangers, to gather them up, and make that common to all the world, which is naturally particular in sole propriety to this nation, and prepared for the management of your highness in such manner, as in your highness's wisdom and great favor shall be thought expedient for the best advantage of this Common-wealth, ever in thriving condition and flourishing by exportation of commodities, as well artificially as naturally appropriated unto this island not unknown to your highness to have suffered some late decay in the main support of its foreign trading, which may receive a great supply and increase by means of good encouragement of this manufacture, only in present necessity of the like protection and privileges, that have been granted, confirmed, and are enjoyed by many others, though of foreign invention and use, and never in possibility of becoming, as this is solely from hence impartable unto all other nations :

All which is humbly submitted to your highness's pleasure, with great hopes that you will graciously patronise and cherish the honest endeavours of such as aim at the public good, as well as their own private interest,

AND YOUR PETITIONERS SHALL EVER PRAY.

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### TWIST-NET LACE.

In the body of this history, where speaking of the Nottingham trade, a pledge was given, that the twist-net should be properly noticed before the work was completed. The reason why the article was not given under the head "Trade," was a desire expressed on the part of several gentlemen interested in the issue of the then pending suit of Brown *versus* Moore and Co. regarding the right of patent on the part of the plaintiff, which was tried before Mr. Justice Gibbs, in the Court of Common Pleas, on the 1st of March, 1816, when the right of patent was quashed on the part of the plaintiff, *on the ground of false claims to originality*; since which this branch of trade has been open to the public. It was my intention too, to have given a minute description of the twist machine; but this upon further investigation, I find would be a most difficult task and not attended with much use, for among the numerous establishments for the manufacturing of this net already in full activity, there are not two of these establishments, I believe, the machines of which are true patterns of those of another. Therefore to give a description of the machines of one concern only, would be considered invidious by some and nonsensical by others; while to describe the *whole* would have too much the appearance of *book making*, and vanity for me to contemplate for a moment; I shall therefore confine myself principally to the *history* of the business.

Mr. John Morris, of Nottingham, whose name has been frequently mentioned in this work, obtained a patent for the manufacturing of twist-net in or about the year 1782, and a legal instrument which I have seen, acknowledges on the part of the said Mr. Morris, that James Tarratt, framework-knitter of this town, was his mechanic on the occasion, on which account, a sum of money, partly dependent on the success of the undertaking was assigned to him. The object was to manufacture ladies' dresses; but as Mr. Tarratt candidly informed me, it failed for want of speed; nor could they traverse the threads more than one mesh. Mr. Robert Brown, framework-knitter, of this town, also obtained a patent for making this kind of net, about the year 1803, but the concern was not prosperous, nor could he traverse his threads more than one mesh. But there is a very great reason to believe, that the object of making the real twist-net upon a machine, was not furthered in the least by their efforts; the one being forgotten, and the other considered of little value. Indeed, I believe these patentees never extended their views so far as that of manufacturing what is now known by the name of *twist-net lace*.

The first person who produced the hobbin, so essential to the formation of this net, was it appears Mr. John Lindley, framework-knitter of this town; for I have now by me a bobbin, being one of a small set which he made, and with which he produced a small portion of the present description of bobbin-net in the year 1799: the bobbin in my possession has been shewn to various mechanics in this branch of business; and from its formation and appearance all are satisfied that it is an original.\* The net thus produced, Mr. Lindley shewed to his uncle Mr. Charles Lacy, (lacemanufacturer, and subsequently joint patentee with Mr. Heathcote,) who

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\* I have also a carriage and a bobbin in it made I believe by a person of the name of Hood, so early as the year 1803, which was some years before the grant of the first patent.

remarked, that as the point-net was then paying very well, he did not like to trouble himself with any thing new at that time. Thus the matter fell to the ground, which appears very singular from the subsequent conduct of Mr. Lacy: such however is the temper of the human mind, that we frequently reject one day, what we seize with avidity another. Notwithstanding the foregoing circumstances the manufacturing this net upon the machine is principally owing to the exertions of Mr. John Heathcote, who during the greater part of the time in which he invented his machinery, was a working setter-up in this town. When Mr. Heathcote had brought his invention to something like perfection, he applied for encouragement to Mr. Charles Lacy, before-mentioned, who embraced the golden offer, and they jointly obtained a patent for the application of their machinery, I believe in 1807,\* and shortly after established a manufactory at Loughborough; notwithstanding the machinery was brought thus far into a state of perfection, in the manufacturing of the twist-net, in as much as the great obstacle to traversing the threads from side to side was overcome; but it is a matter of doubt whether Mr. Heathcote hitherto was acquainted with the use of the *bobbin*; because his machines were obliged to be confined to a very narrow width, and thus rendered the net produced from them of comparatively less value. Although Mr. Lindley invented the bobbin and applied it as before stated, yet it appears that his invention was completely isolated and forgotten, and that the bobbin was introduced by another person, and brought into use independent of Mr. Heathcote or Mr. Lindley's discoveries.

The success attending Mr. Heathcote's efforts in this very intricate undertaking, induced many other men of strong mechanical genius, in and about Nottingham, to apply their talents to the making of this net, several of whom succeeded; particularly Mr. John Brown, a framework-knitter, who receiving encouragement from the late Mr. William Nunn, they in conjunction obtained a patent for an improved method of making the net, and in consequence brought an action against Messrs. Moore and Co. as before noticed, for using machinery of their invention. Had Mr. Brown confined his specification to his own invention, nothing could have shaken his claims, and he would have enjoyed the *profit* as well as the *credit*, of his own ingenuity; but unfortunately for himself he had laid claim in his specification, to parts of machinery and frames, many years previously in use:—the merit of his invention consisted in applying circular instruments in different branches, working in a planetary motion, which enables the workman to traverse diagonally any breadth he pleases, with the additional advantage of giving selvages to such breadths.

From the number of machines already employed in this branch of the Nottingham trade, and their different construction, it cannot be expected that every minor improvement should be mentioned, suffice it to say that the principal parts of the machine have been traced to their origin, and to those persons whose names have been mentioned, I conceive the great merit of invention is due.

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\* Mr. Heathcote in November, 1815, promised the author to furnish him with every information on this subject, on condition of his not publishing any thing relative to the twist-net until the dispute between Messrs. Moore and Brown was decided; but Mr. Heathcote having failed in his promise, the above date and some other questions are left in doubt.

## *FOREST OF SHIREWOOD.*

From the brevity of the sketch of this forest, page 37, having been complained of; the author has been induced to transcribe Dr. Thoroton's historical description of it, and to subjoin a copy of a perambulation of its boundaries made in the reign of king Henry the Eighth.

“When this forest of Shirewood was first made I find not; the first mention of it that I do find is in Henry the second's time, but I conceive it a forest before, for William Peverell in the first year of Henry the second (which is mistaken for the fifth year of king Stephen) doth answer *de Placitis Forestæ* in this county. It seems he had the whole profit and command of this forest for his estate, which, after coming to the crown, the sheriff, 8 H. 2, in the account of his farm prays to be discharged of £4. in *vasto Forestæ*; and in the tenth year of the same king's reign he prays the like discharge of £4. for the waste, as also allowance of £6. 5s. paid to the constable, eight foresters, and a warrener, and to the canons of Shirewood for alms £40. which I conceive to be the prior and monks of Newstede, then newly founded by Henry the Second. In the next year the sheriff of the county *Randolphus filius Engelrami* answers *de censu Forestæ*; and in the twelfth year, Robert de Caltz, Lord of Laxton, a fermor, answers for it £20, and 15 H. 2, Reginaldus de Luci answers the like sum of £20 *pro censu Forestæ*. in both which years Robert Fitz-Randolph was sheriff. In the ancient written forest books of this county there is the copy of a charter made by King John when he was Earl of Morteyne to Matilda de Caux, and Ralph Fitz-Stephen her husband, and to her heirs, of all the liberties and free customs which any of the ancestors of the said Maud held at any time in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, viz. all the forest of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, as their ancestors ever held the same. It came to John Birking as heir to this Maud, so to Thomas Birking his son and heir, about 11 H. 3. and shortly after to Everingham, who thereby claimed *Custodiam Forestarum Regis* in Com. Nottingham and Derby, which I conceive contains no more but this forest of Shirewood, the rest being disafforested by Henry the Third, in the sixth year of his reign, in the sum of the statute of *Charte de Forestæ*. With this Everingham heir to Birking and Caux it continued till Edward the First's time, and then was seized as forfeited. Since the guardianship hath been granted by the princes to noblemen and gentlemen as a character of their especial favor, the state of this fostership of Everinghams, and of the whole forest appears in an inquisition taken by Geoffrey Langley, the kings then justice in eyre of his forests beyond Trent; for the forest officers of Shirewood there find that there be three keepers in the forest, First, between Leene and Doverbecke. Secondly, the High Forest. The third, Rumwood. Robert Everingham, chief keeper of the forest, ought to have a chief servant sworn, going through all the forest at the costs of Robert, to attach all trespasses, and present them at the attachments before the verderors. In the first keeping between Leene and Doverbecke he ought to have one forester riding with a page and two foresters on foot; and there be two verderors, and two agisters. In this keeping there be three hayes, Beskwood Hay, Lindeby Hay, and Willay Hay. The second keeping is the High Forest. In this Robert Everingham is to have two foresters riding with two pages, and two foresters on foot, and there be also two verderors, and two agisters. In this keeping are two hayes, Birkland and Billahay, and the park of Clipston, and

in these hayes and parke two verderors, and two agisters. In the third keeping Rumwoode, Robert Everingham ought to have one forester on foot, and there be two woodwards, one of Carburton, another of Budby, and two verderors, and two agisters. Robert Everingham ought also to have a page bearing his bow through all the forest to gather chiminage. The perambulation of this forest was upon the commission of 16 H. 3, thus set forth, viz. at Coningswath ford, so by the highway towards Wellay Hagh towards Nottingham, leaving out the close of the town of Wellay, from thence by that way to Blackstone Haugh, from thence to that place where the river of Doverbecke goes over that way, and so from thence as the river of Doverbecke goes into Trent. Westerly from the ford of Coningswath by the water called Mayden to the town of Warksope, and so by the same water to the parke of Plesley Hagh, so up the same river to Otter Brigges, from thence by the great highway of Nottingham to the mill ford, from thence to Mayneshead, from thence betwixt the fields of Hardwick and Kirkeby to the corner that is called Nun Carre, from thence by the assert of Edwan Brittainne to the Earl Stigh, and from thence to Stolegate, from thence by the great highway under the castle of Annesley, from thence by the great highway to the town of Linbye, through the midst of the town to the water of Leine, so to Lenton, and from thence by the same water, as it was wont of old time to run into the water of Trent, and so along the river of Trent to the fall of Doverbecke, saving Wellay Hay, and other the kings demesne woods in the county of Nottingham. This I have rather done that most men may know when they are within, and when without the forest. And although there were some deafforestations after, yet were they resumed, so as the old perambulation stands at this day without any remarkable alteration. There have not been many justice seats in the forest of Shirewood; those that I have met withal I shall here observe. The first was in Henry the Second's time before Hugh Bishop of Durrham, Robert Bishop of Lincolne, and Robert Earl of Leicester. The next I find was in Henry the Third's time before Robert Nevill and his fellow justices. The next after that was 15 E. 1, before William Vescy and his fellows; and of this justice seat the rolls of are extant with the chamberlains of the Exchequer in the Tally Office, as also the rolls of the next justice seat of 8 E. 3, before Ralph Nevill and his fellows. The next justice seat I can meet with is 21 H. 7, before Simon Stalworth, and John Collier, Clarks, Robert Nevill, and John Port or Porter, and before them as deputies and lieutenants of Sir Thomas Lovell, guardian and chief forester, and the justice of the forest of our lord the king of Shirewood. But his seat I cannot find recorded in any place, although I made diligent enquiry for it upon a claim there for the town of Nottingham, and upon conference with William Noy, the late attorney-general to his majesty that now is, he told me it was no where to be found where he had seen. I have seen some claims, as the beginning of another justice seat for this particular forest, 26 H. 8, before Thomas the first Earl of Rutland, but no further proceeding therein that I could learn. The last upon record in the Exchequer in the same Tally Office is a book, wherein is entred the claims and commencement of a justice seat here before the then Lord Crumwell, the kings then chief justice in eyre of his forests on the north side of Trent. The state of this forest at this present consists of a warden, his lieutenant, and his steward, a bow bearer, and a ranger, four verderors, twelve regards, so reduced to the number of twelve by an ordinance made in Edwards the First's time by William Vescy and his fellows, four agisters, and

twelve keepers or foresters in the main forest ; besides there are now four keepers in Thorney Woods, where anciently there were but two, one of the North Bayle, another of the south, they are all reduced under the chief forester the Earl of Chesterfeild and his heirs, whose father Sir John Stanhoppe had the same granted in fee, with liberty to destroy and kill at their pleasures, reserving an hundred deer in the whole walk. There are also besides the forest keepers three in Beskwood park, that before Edward the Thirds time was an hay or wood uninclosed, but since it was imparked, the general keeper of the park hath had the command of the other keepers, as I presume the general forester of the hay had before, for I find Richardus de Strelley was forester there 2 E. 3. There is also one other keeper of Nottingham parke, one other of Clipston parke. The twelve forester keepers are these, one of Maunsfeilde, one of Maunsfeilde Woodhouse, one of Annesley hills and Newstede, one of Papplewicke, one of Rumwood and Oswald, one of Rughford, one of Billahay, one of Kirkland, one of Calverton, one of Farnesfeilde, one of Langton Arbour and Blidworth, and one of Sutton in Ashefeild. The castle and the park of Nottingham was granted to the late Earl Francis of Rutland, and is now the inheritance of the Dutchesse of Buckingham his daughter and heir. Clipston park is now the inheritance of the Earl of Newcastle, who is the present warden of this forest, and his are also the perpetual placing of the keeper of Rumwood and Oswald. The keepership of Rughford is the inheritance of Sir William Savile, lord of Rughford. Annesley Hills, Papplewick, and Newstede are granted to Sir John Byron, lord of Newstede, and the rest of the walks are in the disposition of the warden of the forest. There are besides, as members of the forest, several woodwards for every township within the forest, and for every principal wood one."

" It would not be impertinent to set down how that in the beginning of the reign of King Henry the Second, Ranulph the sheriff, Hugh de Buyrun, Raph de Hanselin, Robert de Ferreriis, Raph de Annesley, Galfr. de le Fremunt, Raph de Heronvill, Hugh Fitz-Wlviat, Robert de Hoveringham, Alexander Fitz-Toche, Simon Fitz Richard, Robert de Ripera, Richard de Croxton, William de Herys, Walter de Amundevill, Sampson de Stereley, Gervas Fitz-Richard de Mucy, Ingelram, the brother of Sheriff, Hugh Fitz-Roger, William Fitz-Reyner, Hugh Fitz-Albred, Hardewin, and Gaufr. de Staunton, swore at Nottingham in the presence of Robert Earl of Leicester, who on the part of the King commanded them that they should tell the truth concerning the customs and liberties which the land of the archbishop (of York) which is in Nottinghamshire, and the archbishop himself had in the same shire, in the time of King Henry the elder (viz. the first) and the year and day wherein that King Henry the first was alive and dead. And after they, had sworne, they said, That the whole land of the archbishop was without the forest, which was contained between the bounds underwritten ; as Doverbeck falleth into Trent, and on the upper part from the water of Doverbeck unto Ciningeswad, as the way of Llyth goes, and all that land which is beyond Ciningeswad, and beyond the aforesaid way, was out of the forest unto Bykersdike, so that no forester of the Kings could intermeddle on the Kings part concerning that land, but the archbishop and his men did freely both essart and do what they would with it as their own. And out of the afore-named bounds in the old forest, the archbishop did hunt nine daies in the year, viz. three against Christmas, three against Easter, and three against Whitsunday, through the whole

wood of Blythworth, and in that wood of Blythworth the archbishop, and his canons, and his men, had all the attachments without wast [guasto] and had their proper foresters, and aieryes of hawks, and paunage: this was sealed by Robert Bishop of Lincolne, and Hugh Bishop of Durrham. John Romanus archbishop of York, 15 E. 1. by Hugh de Stapleford his Attorney, had great pleading before William de Vescy, Thomas de Normanville, and Richard de Crepping, Justices in Eyre, concerning his holding Pleas of Vert in his Court of Southwell, and many other privileges: As William de Melton, one of his successours, Archbishop of York, by William de Southwell his attorney, had 8 E. 3. before Raph de Nevill, Richard de Aldeburgh, and Peter de Midleton, as may be seen at large in the rolls of both these justice seats in the Tally Office. But I shall not be further particular in exhibiting any further collections on this subject, because the pleasant and glorious condition of this noble forest is now wonderfully declined. And there is at present, and long hath been, a justice seat, which is not yet finished, and therefore cannot now be rendred a good account of, held under my Lords Grace the Duke of Newcastle, justice in eyre of all his majesties forests, &c. Trent north, wherein it seems his deputies or lieutenants have allowed such and so many claims, that there will not very shortly be wood enough left to cover the bilberries, which every summer were wont to be an extraordinary great profit and pleasure to poor people, who gathered them and carried them all about the country to sell: I shall therefore at this time say no more, May 24, 1675."

#### PERAMBULATION.

A perambulation of the fforrest of Sheerewood made the nineth day of September in the Thirtyeth year of the Reigne of King Henry the Eighth (by the grace of God of England and ffraunce King defender of the faith Lord of Ireland and Supreme head upon earth of the English Church;) By Robert Brymesley, Gabriel Berwicke, Richard Perepoint Esqr's; Alexander Merring, Christopher ffitzrandole, Robert Whitmore, John Walker, Manrite Orrell, John Garnion, John Palmer Gentlemen; Robert Levett, William Mellars, Robert Rawson, John Losscowe, John Bristow, and Robert North, Regarders of the said fforrest of Sheerewood. Which perambulation begun at the Kings Castle of Nottingham. And passing from thence unto the Kings bridge meadow gate, And from thence by the Old Trent untill to the ancient Course of the Water of Leene; which is the bound between the Kings Meadow and the Meadow of Wilforth and from henceforward by the said ancient course of the Water of Leene even to the Meadow called Carlam, And thence by the Comon way even to the Bridge upon Leene nigh to the Orchard of the Priory of Lenton, And from thence ascending by the said Water of Leene even unto the Bounds of the Kings Village of Bulwell; And so about the Kings Wood of Bulwell Rise untill to the said Water of Leene so comeing up by the said water unto Lindby Mill and so through the Midle Town of Lindby unto the Cross there, And thence from the said Cross by the great Highway which leads to the ancient Castle of Annessy, leaveing the said Castle on the right hand, And from thence by the said great Highway unto Stolegate which leads unto Chesterfield lediate; And from thence turning out of the way a very little towards the West by the Stole Stighe from the north part of Annessey field unto a certain Lane which is between Annessey Woodhouse field on the West side and a

certain Assart ground of Richard Savion, heretofore of Evans de Bretton on the East side ; And so goeing down through the said Lane towards the North unto a certain Corner called Nuncarr, And from thence by the way between the Moores of Kirkby-fields unto the Lane between the ffields of Hardewick and ffields of Kirkby, And then by the said Lane towards the East; And then towards the North by the housedoore of Hardewick up to Mannswell Hedde ; And from thence towards the West by Hardewicke hedge, And so goeing down towards the South by the Rewarder Mere, between Kirkby ffields and Sutton ffields, up unto Holebrucke Hawe ; And from thence by the hedge of Holebrucke Hawe unto Coolegate ; And so passing away by the Coppice Wood of the Lord the King called ffullwood, And so by the whole Bounds of ffullwood round about up to Normanton Lane, And from the said Lane by the hedge of Normanton ffield, up to Hawkiwell, And from thence about the ffields of Dirty Hucknall and Houthwell up to Milnford bridge ; And from thence turning away by the great Way from Nottingham and the water up to Heyterbridge, And by the said water goeing down to Plesey, And from thence by the water of Mayden unto the Town of Warsop, And so through the Middle Town of Warsop up unto the Cross there, And so directly by the way of Warsop, And by that way unto the said water of Mayden, And so by the said water towards the East up to Mugley ffoard ; And from thence goeing up towards the North unto the Heselgapp, And so leaveing the Prest Crown on the right hand up unto the hedge between Rumwood and Crown ffields up to the Kings Park late of the Abbot of Welbeck, And then goeing up by the said Park unto the Owtegate fforrest ; which is between the said Park, and the Park of the Earle of Shrewsbury heretofore Lord of ffurnevall, And from the said Owtegate extending to Byards Stable, And again goeing up between the said Parks unto the Rodegate, And so goeing down towards the East by the Sand Rodegate to a certain Stone at the East of Warwood ; And so descending a little towards the South unto A certain Stone in Clumbre, And so beyond the ffields of Clumbre even to A Stone fixed on the East part of Glemires and on the North part of the way there ; And from thence directly towards the South up to another Stone which is fixed near to the way leads from Merrillbriggs to Awsland, And from thence up to a certain Holyn, which is nigh to Thoresbie ffields, And goeing down through the aforesaid ffields (viz.) by the Parson Balke unto the Town of Thoresbie, and from thence by the water of Meaden to Coningbie ffoard, And from thence by the great way from Blyth to Coningswath forth, and so on the West part of the Town of Wellow, And from thence by the great way which leads from Nottingham unto Blackstone Hew, And from thence unto the little brooke of Dover becke, And so as that Brooke runs through the Middle of the Town of Cathorp thence by the said brooke of Dover beck where it was wont to runn of ancient time unto the water of Trent, And so the aforesaid water untill it come against the Abbey of Shelford ; So that the said Abbey is out of the fforrest, And afterwards by the said River of Trent where of ancient time it used to run (viz.) on the East side the new course now of Trent unto the Mannor of Colwicke, And there where the water of Trent was wont to runn, So that the Limitts there called Hekin is within the fforrest, And from thence by the said River unto Nottingham Bridge called Heathbecke Briggs and from thence by the South part of the Meadows of Nottingham unto the Castle there.”



## THE TOWN ARMS AND COMMON SEAL.

Of the arms little need be said, they are as depicted in the title page. *Gules, three crowns, or with a cross raguled and trunked vert set in the lowest.* The cross raguled, evidently refers to the time when Nottingham was a forest town; and the crowns as certainly bear an allusion to the connexion once subsisting between the borough and royalty.

The common seal represented below, bears marks of very great antiquity; and is generally allowed to be coeval with the charter of King John. The fortress is a very handsome specimen of the ancient Norman castles, and with the crescent and star, form as beautiful a seal as can be produced of its age, by any borough in Great Britain.





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## ERRATA.



INTRODUCTION, page 10, line 2 from the bottom; for *the*, read *they*.

Page 14, line 13, for *the latter being*, read, *which view is further*.

.... 20, .... 11, after *to*, read, *give*.

.... 21, .... 21, for *one arch*, read, *two arches*.

.... 23, .... 26, for *were*, read, *was*.

.... 40, So much of lines 16 and 17 as relates to latitude and longitude, to be taken out; as being correctly given, page 115.

.... 47, line 13, take out, *and*.

.... 60, .... 7, take out, *which were*.

.... 77, .... 10, from the bottom, for 2139, read, 2739.

.... 90, Note, for *the Trinity House*, read, *a Chantry House*.

.... 115, line 13 from the bottom, place a comma after *book*, and take out the dash.

.... 164, take out the note as the donor is still unknown.

.... 195, line 2, take out, *new desires in the human heart*.

.... 199, .... 10, for *wreath*, read, *writhe*.

.... 204, Note, for *rigging and unrigging*, read, *reefing and unreefing the sails, &c*.

.... 239, for *Aston Flenville*, read, *Aston Flamville*.

.... 239, for *Nailstowe*, read, *Nailstone*.

.... 241, *Bredon, Gloucestershire*, should be *Breedon, Worcestershire*.

.... 241, *North Stoke, Gloucestershire*, should be, *North Stuke, in Somersetshire*.

.... 241, for *Farncomb*, read, *Farnham*.

.... 242, for *Loceby, Lincolnshire*, read, *Loseby, Leicestershire*.

.... 242, for *Poisby* in Scotland, read, *Paisley*.

.... 383, the great cheese riot, mentioned in 1764, happened in 1766.

.... 304, reverse the numbers in Caunt and Buxton's election, as the latter gentleman had the majority.













